

## Arrival of Lord Soames marks end of Rhodesia's rebellion

Soames, the British Governor of Southern Rhodesia, landed in Salisbury yesterday and said that it marked "the first step" in the country's return to a normal relationship with the international community. He was welcomed by

Bishop Abel Muzorewa, whose Government had voted itself out of office. Mr Ian Smith, the man who led the 14-year rebellion, stayed in his office. In London, Lord Carrington was confident that a ceasefire would be agreed this week.

### 'First step' in return to international community

Nicholas Ashford  
y, Dec 12  
minutes past two local this afternoon, Lord the new British Air Force VC10 airliner Rhodesian soil, thereby marking the end of territory's 14-year-long against the British

At precise moment the violent state of Zimbabwe reverted to the British colony of Rhodesia. A change by the British Africa Police band up the opening bars of the national anthem while a honour of black and policemen presented

radio and television four hours later, Lord told Rhodesians that his marked the first step country's return to a relationship with the international community elections had been held Rhodesia would be fully independent. This was "an important victory", adding that had from today removed us against Rhodesia.

Soames, wearing a blue and brown silk hat, was at the airport by Mr Robin the British representative, and members of government of Zimbabwe, who a few previously had voted lives out of office bying a parliamentary Bill giving all powers over to the

He head of the welcoming is Bishop Abel Muzorewa, country's Prime Minister past six months and nine others there to greet him the acting chief just the commissioner of

Smith stays at his office

Ian Smith, the man responsible for the country's with Britain 14 years ago, not present. He decided to at his office instead.

After his arrival Lord accompanied by his set out for Government in a dark blue Daimler the Governor's ensign car, specially flown in Britain for his use, was passed by an escort of outriders and a motor

On the route were several ed charting and dancing stars of Bishop Muzorewa is Rev Ndiabaniyi Sithole arrived a coffin declaring UDI had finally been

side Government House Soames was greeted by a sort of demonstration, by about 200 liberal who had been steadfastly opposed to UDI. They a large Union Jack had been taken down in front of Government



Lord Soames reviewing a guard of honour shortly after his arrival in Salisbury yesterday.

civilian clothes and not military uniform when he alighted from Lord Soames' aircraft.

Although Lord Soames will rule by decree, will wield sweeping legislative and executive powers while in office, he will be virtually powerless to decrease the fighting until agreement has been reached in London.

Mr Cephas Msipa, the senior representative of Mr Joshua Nkomo's wing of the Patriotic Front, expressed disappointment that Lord Soames had failed to take immediate action while he was staying in the grounds of Government House.

He said: "It will not be long before a ceasefire is agreed."

The absence of a clear-cut agreement meant that Lord Soames could technically remain technically responsible for all actions carried out by the Rhodesian Security Forces. This means that until an agreement is signed, Britain and no longer the Salisbury government is at war with the Patriotic Front.

Failure to remove the ban, he said, would lead to a confrontation with the masses of Zimbabwe.

London confidence: Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, and the British delegation to the ceasefire monitoring force, which was to have started arriving in Salisbury shortly after Lord Soames landed, has been held back. It also meant that Major General John Acland, the Governor's military adviser and head of the ceasefire commission, was wearing

describing the British ceasefire proposals as "deficient".

Lord Carrington returns from

Mr Robert Mugabe said that the British government was still refusing to accord equal treatment to the Patriotic Front in the arrangements made for the separation of its forces from the Rhodesian side.

British confidence that a settlement is coming and quickly, is based on comments from governments of front-line states closely concerned as well as on private contacts in the conference itself.

#### Friday likely day for settlement

The feeling is that with the conclusion pre-election arrangements and ceasefire principles all agreed, and the governor installed in Salisbury, everyone can see that there is no escape from the course which leads to elections and an independent Zimbabwe.

There may be, therefore, as much reason for the Patriotic Front to wish to get involved in the Rhodesian election campaign now as there has been in recent days for it to gain time to infiltrate more of its forces into the country.

Describing the British ceasefire proposals as "deficient",

Lord Carrington returns from

the NATO meeting in Brussels tomorrow night or Friday morning and leaves with the Prime Minister for Washington on Sunday. Accordingly, Friday looks the most likely date for the settlement to be completed, if British optimism about the result is to be fulfilled.

In anticipation, the Final Act of the conference will shortly be circulated to the delegations for their approval, for signature at the concluding ceremony.

There was only brief contact between British officials and the Patriotic Front yesterday.

In the six-hour meeting at the United States headquarters, the two parties were both meeting to study the final Act.

Later last night a Patriotic Front spokesman made it clear that their concern was only with matters of detail on the British map.

In some cases Britain was suggesting that their forces in a forward position should move to a rear base, in some cases people were being asked to move to positions that were not acceptable for reasons of logistics.

Carrington strategy, page 5

Parliamentary report, page 10

Market worth £100m, page 17

## 24 held after raids in five cities to forestall IRA menace

By Stewart Tander  
Crime Reporter

Twenty-four people were being interviewed last night by detectives from Special Branch and the anti-terrorist squad after raids in London and four other cities. Senior officers believe the raids may deal a serious blow to Provisional IRA plans for a fresh British offensive.

It is being suggested that a number of the people being held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act will prove to be "first division" Provisionals. Although no explosives were recovered, police found hand-guns and plenty of ammunition.

The raids were carried out early yesterday after two rounds of intelligence gathering and surveillance. Police officers struck at addresses in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Southampton.

Three people were held by Merseyside police, four by Hampshire police, two by West Midlands officers and 15 in London by officers drawn from Special Branch, the Anti-Terrorist Squad and the Special Patrol Group.

The weapons were found in London, said the police. One of the addresses is an expensive flat in a house in Holland Park, west London, where, according to one resident, the police called for stretchers after they burst in.

No names of people held have been released, but one is reported to be a journalist who works for a Dublin magazine.

There was also a report yesterday that a member of a small British left-wing group had been held in the raids in London.

Another of the people being held is reported to be connected with the "International Tribunal on Britain's Presence in Northern Ireland" and was held in a gas works.

After the raids a considerable amount of material was sent away for examination by forensic scientists, and the re-

sults of the examinations will not be known for several days at least.

Precise identification of a number of the people being held, at unnamed police stations, will also take some time while finger-prints are checked against police records.

The raids are being interpreted as a preemptive strike against any Provisional offensive in the Christmas period.

For some time there has been speculation that such an offensive might be launched, and even suggestions that it could include indiscriminate attacks.

The Provisons have been silent on the British mainland since last winter—the murder of Mr Airey Neave, the work of another Irish group, when attacks were carried out in London and on an oil depot.

The Christmas period has become a traditional time of attack, and last year extra police officers were on duty in the main shopping areas of central London.

RUC chief's warning: "You cannot win," the Provisional IRA was told yesterday by Sir Kenneth Newmann, Deputy Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (the Press Association reports).

Sir Kenneth, speaking at his last public engagement before leaving the RUC to join the Inspectors of Constabulary as commandant of the staff training college at Bramshill, Hampshire, said: "The terrorist in Northern Ireland cannot succeed in his objective."

But the manner in which the terrorist ultimately fails and the time when that failure occurs, has a great deal to do with the public as well as the police.

Sir Kenneth was addressing 84 recruits at a passing-out parade at Enniskillen, Northern Ireland.

Mr Jack Herman, one of Sir Kenneth's deputies, takes over as Chief Constable on January 1.

## How British intelligence aided Savak secret police

From Robert Fisk  
Tehran, Dec 12

Sitting in the Ervin prison today in their open-neck shirts, white cardigans, and corsets, drawing nervously on American cigarettes, the 18 prisoners looked nothing like the popular image of secret police-men. From the moment they were brought into the press conference, these middle-aged and sometimes avuncular men smiled blandly or just stared as government officials described them as criminals.

When a senior Savak officer rose to talk, a man from the Iranian Ministry of National Guidance referred to him as "worse than Eichmann" but the prisoner did not react. Sometimes one felt that the former members of the Shah's secret police defended themselves rather too eloquently for the comfort of the ministry men.

Nevertheless there was an uncomfortable feeling that the press conference was increasingly coming to resemble the trials in which some of the prisoners had yet to hear their fate.

It was a fascinating and occasionally frightening story that they told. Mr Hassan Sana, the economic and security adviser to the deputy head of Savak, talked of British intelligence cooperation with the Shah, a friendly liaison which he claimed, prompted British agents to pass to their Iranian counterparts information about Persian students in England.

Mr Sana, a chain-smoker with dark glasses and an apparent passion for brightly-coloured ties, said the British alliance enabled Savak to watch or arrest students on their return to Tehran from London.

He spoke, too, of how Savak agents were flown from New York by the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for lessons in interrogation techniques at a secret American

Continued on page 5, col 5

## Nato approves plan to modernize US nuclear forces in Europe

From Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

Brussels, Dec 12

Nato defence and foreign ministers tonight approved the controversial £250m plan to modernize the alliance's theatre nuclear forces by stationing 572 new American missiles in Europe.

Holland and Belgium may not accept missiles on their soil. Their reservations could reduce the number of missiles deployed to 476.

News of the decision, accompanied by a series of arms control proposals which will be put to the Soviet Union, was announced after a six-hour meeting at the United States headquarters.

Both Mr Vance, the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Francis Pym, the British Secretary of State for Defence, expressed pleasure at the outcome.

Mr Vance said: "Our deployment decision gives evidence of the continued vitality and cohesiveness of the alliance."

Mr Pym commented: "I regard the outcome as a major

decision and thoroughly satisfactory".

The result was certainly more positive than had been expected last week when the fragile Dutch coalition Government was faced with a hostile vote to the plan in the Parliament, and when the Belgian and Danish positions looked very uncertain.

The 572 nuclear weapons include 108 Pershing ballistic missiles which have a range of 1,000 miles and 464 ground-launched cruise missiles. Under the United States plan, the cruise missiles would be stationed in five countries—96 in West Germany, 160 in Britain, 112 in Italy, 48 in Belgium and 48 in Holland. All could reach targets in the Soviet Union.

Britain, consistently robust in its support of the programme, has already started consultations with the United States Air Force about two suitable bases for the missiles. A decision is likely next year, Mr Pym said tonight. Italy and West Germany are also unequivocal in their acceptance of the missiles.

He said the increase was necessary to meet the challenge of rising Soviet defence spending.—Reuter.

## US arms bill rise of 5pc sought

Washington, Dec 12—President Carter said today that he would ask Congress to provide more than \$157,000m (£72,500m) for defence in 1981, an increase of more than 5 per cent after inflation over the current military budget.

He said the increase was necessary to meet the challenge of rising Soviet defence spending.—Reuter.

**Yard officers jailed for blackmail**

By Annabel Ferriman  
The right of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London to reject an alderman democratically elected by residents of the City was upheld yesterday by Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice.

Lord Widgery dismissed an application from Mr Donald Silk, solicitor from the Barbican, in the City of London, who wanted the Court of Aldermen to declare him an alderman. Mr Silk was elected an alderman for Aldersgate ward last July 23 by 206 votes to 195, but his election was rejected by the aldermen in September.

Mr Silk, who was granted leave to appeal, said after the hearing in the High Court: "The court has held that the Court of Aldermen are entitled to overrule the wishes of the electors in the ward of Aldersgate and to do so without statutory reasons."

"In doing so, the court has felt bound by a decision of the 1830s, since when one man, one

vote has become an established principle in elections throughout the civilized world."

"For this reason, I feel justified in considering taking the matter a step further."

Lord Widgery said in his judgment: "When I ask myself how I feel about the retention of these somewhat undemocratic arrangements, my personal feelings are not that we are doing any great disservice or difficulty, because I think people regard the City of London as something special and I do not think they are offended by happenings in the City of London which might cause comment elsewhere."

The last time the Court of Aldermen's right to approve or reject an alderman was considered in the courts and decided "to a very great degree" was in 1839. Albeit that was a long time ago, the undertaking was so comprehensive and the points settled so great that one must look carefully at that set of authorities, he said.

Continued on page 2, col 3

## Unions are entitled to sue for libel, High Court told

By Marcel Berlins  
Legal Correspondent

Trade unions since 1913 had been entitled to sue for libel in their own names, it was said in the High Court yesterday in answer to a claim that trade unions had no right to sue for defamation.

Mr Michael Kampner QC, on behalf of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, submitted to Mr Justice O'Connor that if he were to rule otherwise "it would change a practice, an attitude and an assumption that had long been held."

The judge is hearing a preliminary point in an action for libel brought by the union against Times Newspapers Ltd.

The hearing continues today.

Law Report, page 11

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## HOME NEWS

## Trade union movement to display its wrath at Tory policies by mass rally and a day of action

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor  
The trade union movement is to demonstrate its wrath at the Government's policies on labour law reform and the economy by staging a day of action early next summer. Some unions may strike for the day on May 14, but others will confine their protests to lunch-time meetings.

The TUC's economic committee decided on that modest militant course of action yesterday as part of its continuing Campaign for Economic and Social Advance, the slogan for which is "Forward into the 80s - not back to the 30s".

A rally in Hyde Park on Sunday, March 9, will precede the day of protest and there will be other regional demonstrations of opposition to Cabinet policies on public spending cuts, trade union law changes and industrial strategy. But overall, the TUC's official protest movement is unlikely to cause ministers much anxiety.

Opposition to the full range of government policies is being mounted under the umbrella of the campaign, but the TUC is planning specific measures against the employment Bill, of which Mr Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, introduced last week.

A conference of trade union presidents and general secretaries has been called for Jan-

uary 22 and the TUC's employment policy and organization committee meets today to consider the proposed legislation in detail.

Union reaction to the Bill continues to be fundamentally opposed to the labour law reforms, but Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' leader, argued on the BBC television programme *Platform One* tonight that Mr Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, was overstating the case against the legislation.

He says: "I think the unions were being slightly hysterical about the proposals, because the only thing I think that is worth worrying about, from our point of view, is the secondary picketing issue. I think there is ample evidence that the closed-shop situation needs to be looked at."

"I think it is very difficult to justify arguments that people who, 30 years working somewhere without being in a union, if a union has a closed shop, they should be fired. It is very difficult to justify that it has never been the policy of my union."

On curbs on secondary picketing, Mr Chapple, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union said: "I think you could have conflict there, and that concerns me. It is not the difficulties that are made

for unions to picket that bothers me."

"It is that you will not stop people picketing and if you put a very great burden on the police to ensure that people who are picketing there are picketing lawfully, then you will need a lot more policemen and the chance of violence are likely to increase."

Mr Chapple's proposal for a pledge of non-violent Labour reigns power, he said: "I think it depends a lot on what sort of Labour Party comes back to power. I do not think with the present leadership, the Labour Party is likely to be back in power for a very long time. If the leadership is changed for a moderate leadership, I do not think that sort of Labour Government is likely to repeat those laws all that quickly."

Mr Leslie Wood, general secretary of the 350,000-strong Unite of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, argued that the Bill was "specifically designed to attack those dogmatic Tories, whose real intention is to eliminate effective trade unionism altogether".

The proposed legislation, particularly on the closed shop and picketing, would "cause and exacerbate disputes rather than solve them. Legislation based on right-wing Tory dogmas would provide no solution."

Details of the scheme for a site in Bridge Street opposite the Palace of Westminster are due to be issued by Casson, Conder and Partners. Although it is dated last May, it was not released until yesterday, along with the committee's report welcoming it.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Leader of the House of Commons, and the committee chairman, pointed out that the proposal still had to be approved by Parliament, and that the Government would have to authorise the expenditure.

He made it clear that any building must be considered against the present background of financial stringency. Parlia-

mentary buildings could be no exception.

The need for improved facilities was unchallenged, he said. "I do not think any other legislature in the world would put up with such a kind of primitive design as appears those dogmatic Tories, whose real intention is to eliminate effective trade unionism altogether".

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## HOME NEWS

**Industrial democracy experiment on board Post Office to end**

By David Felton

Government has decided to end the two year experiment in industrial democracy in the Post Office under which seven representatives sat on the board.

Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, announced yesterday that Post Office management or favour continuing the experiment the Government had not to renew the legislation next March.

Keith said: "In accordance with our general policy for the Post Office and other Office unions to decide what form of workers' participation to take he end of this year.

The thing is quite clear at present time. They do not think this particular experiment at main board level will continue. Broadly the is in favour of a convention whilst management, majority of the independent members of the board, are

make clear that there was opportunity for negotiations on terms of participation should but there would have to be agreement within the next months to get the legislation in time.

From the Post unions was one of disagreement, but they welcome Sir Keith's statement future representation on board.

Peter Shaw, the Post

**Bhutto's son red effect of publicity**

student son of Mr Zulfikar Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, hanged yesterday plotting a political

told Inner London Court yesterday that he or make a hoax telephone because adverse publicity have injured his father.

Shahzad Bhutto, aged 22, was pleased not guilty to a telephone call from flat in Ladbroke Square, saying there was a 10 Downing Street.

Bhutto said his father's had been sympathetic in Britain and he had hostility towards the Government, or Mr James Callaghan, then Prime Minister.

important telephone calls made or received at the Square flat

trial was adjourned until

Office engineering union's member on the board, said last night: "The union believes that the concept of industrial democracy is right for the business and for the community it serves and we will be continuing discussions with the chairman of the Post Office as soon as practicable about the future of the concept."

The experiment of equal union and management representation on the board, with the balance being held by five independent members, who included two consumers and a trade unionist, was set up by the Labour Government after the Bullock report on industrial democracy.

A report from the industrial relations unit of Warwickshire, which has been studying the unions and management, but which only reached ministerial earlier this week, concluded that the experiment was set up amid political and union pressure following the Bullock report and it did not meet the management's criterion for success.

Sir William Barlow, the Post Office chairman, the full-time management board members and most of the independent members, were unanimous that the experiment should continue.

Mr Adam Butler, a Minister of State at the Department of Industry, said: "I think one of the reasons it went wrong was that management found the board was not making its decisions as effectively as it ought to, and that there was a disproportionate amount of time given up to industrial relations."

From Our Correspondent

**Woman stabbed to death at university**

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

A secretary, aged 32, was

stabbed to death at the zoology department of Reading University, Berkshire, yesterday.

A laboratory technician, who went to her rescue, was also stabbed by her attacker.

Mr Christopher Knott, aged 18, of Pinelodge, Burghfield Common, Berkshire, underwent surgery for multiple wounds at Bart's Hospital, Reading. His condition was described as satisfactory after an operation.

The woman, whom police did not name, was married with two children.

Det Sgt Len Bradley paid tribute to the "extreme courage" of Mr Knott.

Police said last night that a man was being interviewed about the death of the woman.

**BBC defends quiz show criticized as rubbishy**

By Our Arts Reporter

After the Independent Broadcasting Authority's spirited defence of Bruce Forsyth's shows against press criticism, the BBC today takes up the cudgels on behalf of one of its programmes against similar press barracking.

The programme is the quiz show *Blankety Blank*, which has Terry Wogan as its host and which the BBC says in its annual report "quickly became as successful as its original counterpart had been for many years in the United States". It is, the BBC says, "a simple piece of harmless fun, skillfully handled by Terry Wogan".

One national critic called it "a rubbishy word-game".

To that kind of remark, the BBC *Handbook* replies: "Television programme-makers can certainly be helped in their task by informed criticism in the press. However, if this criticism gets too strident, it may overshadow actual achievement. The year was remarkable for the way in which developments marched hand in hand with controversy."

Another complaint dealt with in the report concerns parliamentary broadcasting. "The new service (it began in April last year) was not welcomed in its entirety. We found that the live broadcast of Prime Minister's Questions, when members were at their most vociferous in support and denunciation of ministers, upset some people for whom the occasion lacked decorum and irritated others because they thought it gave a false impression of Parliament as a whole."

From *BBC Handbook 1980*, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA (£3).

**Labour invitation to private schools to define role**

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

The Labour Party has invited the independent schools information Service (Lis) to submit proposals on the future role of independent schools in relation to the comprehensive system.

Mr Tim Devlin, director of Lis, said yesterday that he had hoped that as the independent schools did not want to be tied to any particular party a meaningful discussion could have been started with the Labour Party.

I am therefore surprised that Mr Neil Kinnock, Opposition spokesman on education, has taken every opportunity to knock the independent schools. His new proposals may win him



A study of the Queen by Bernard Hailstone to be sold in aid of the Artists General Benevolent Fund. It is on exhibition at Harrison McCann, Fitzroy Street, London, until tomorrow.

**Polytechnic gets approval again from inspectorate**

By Our Planning Reporter

Teesside Polytechnic, which was severely criticized last year by the Council for National Academic Awards, has received a favourable report from the council.

In a statement issued yesterday, the CNAW, the main degree-awarding body for advanced courses in maintained colleges of higher and further education, said that after a two-day inspection last week, it was able to continue its approval of the polytechnic as a major institution of higher education.

Addressing the annual conference in London of the Town and Country Planning Association, he suggested that the growth in social security payments would not be reflected in next month's public expenditure White Paper. That was because the Government dare not publicly forecast the continuation of inflation, unemployment and recession.

What was certain was that, if the published forecast figures for social security were too low, as they had repeatedly been in the past, the inevitable consequence was that figures for productive public expenditure, on such things as housing, education and transport, would be too high.

"They will be too high because the Government will have to reduce them to make room for the increased expenditure on social security which they cannot avoid", he said.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, told the conference that he was appalled at the frustration, waste and economic loss caused by planning delays.

**Tories 'dare not' forecast continuing inflation**

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government would not succeed in reducing public expenditure for one reason—the ever-increasing demands of social security, Mr Thomas Caulcott, Secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday.

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**Jail visitor refuses to resign over broadcast**

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office has suggested to an official prison visitor at Wormwood Scrubs, Mr Jonathan Pollitzer, that he should resign because he broadcast on television about the riot there without the permission of the prison department, thus breaking a rule.

Fifty-four prisoners and 11 officers were injured in the riot. One of the injured was a prisoner whom Mr Pollitzer had been visiting. He told me: "I was shattered to see this non-combatant with seven stiches on his head and he told me he had severe bruising on his back."

In reply to a parliamentary question by Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour, for comment, Mr William Whittlesey, the Home Secretary, said: "Wormwood Scrubs is a list of places where a new Mafsi squad had been used. Mafsi stands for 'Minimum use of force tactical intervention squad'."

Miss Kay Douglas-Scott, another voluntary worker at the prison who appeared on the same television programme as Mr Pollitzer, *Thames News*, but on a different date, and visited the same prisoner, has also been put under pressure.

An inquiry into the disturbance at the prison is being conducted by Mr Keith Gibson, the director of the south-east regional director.

Mr Pollitzer has written to Mr Gibson declining to give evidence to the inquiry.

He called instead for a "full-scale independent inquiry" rather than one "behind closed doors". He has refused a Home Office request to resign, and has been suspended until further notice.

The Home Office said last night that Miss Douglas-Scott, a voluntary associate working with the probation and after-care service, was told on Monday that she "would not be assigned a new prisoner at the present time because of her over-involvement in her case-work".

Miss Douglas-Scott commented: "It is preposterous."

**Vineyard bought by German firm**

One of England's largest vineyards, Barossa, at Heron's Ghyll, near Uckfield, East Sussex, has been bought by Pieroth Ltd, the German wine producers and shippers.

The company, which is thought to have paid more than £250,000 for the 61 acres and a six-bedroom country house, intends to turn the property into its British show place.

It's a radar device, originally developed by Mullard for defence purposes, which is now controlling traffic and protecting property.

It sends out a microwave beam and, using the Doppler principle, compares this with the reflected beam. Any change in the return signal means something has moved.

So, the small boxes on top of temporary traffic lights are 'watching' for cars, allowing them to move on with the minimum delay. Similar components have become the nerves of highly versatile and

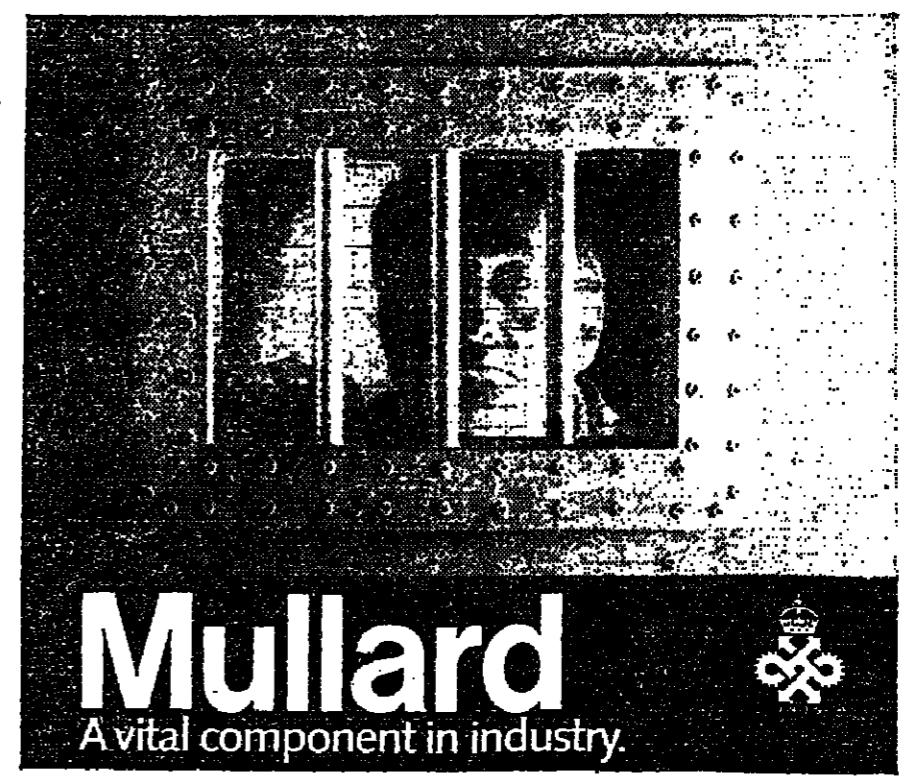
effective intruder alarms. There are also automatic door openers, a speedometer for boats and, in the offing, an anti-skid system for aircraft and heavy lorries.

Mullard have, on tap, the widest range anywhere of microwave components. We are the largest producers of electronic components in this country and, right across the board, industry comes to us for some of the most advanced components technology available in the world today.

We, in return, are only too happy

to co-operate fully and closely.

And that's a combined effort to keep things moving smoothly.



## HOME NEWS

## Oxbridge bias denied in recruiting for higher Civil Service

By Peter Hennessy  
A Civil Service Commission report published today denies that recruitment procedures for the higher Civil Service favour candidates from privileged social backgrounds who attended independent schools and read for arts degrees at Oxford or Cambridge.

The investigation of the selection mechanism for the administration trainees (AT) grade was conducted by a committee made up of the four Civil Service Commissioners, chaired by Dr Fergus Allen, the First Commissioner, and three outsiders: Professor F. G. Cran, Emeritus Professor of Law at Queen Mary College, London; Miss M. F. Down, Personnel director of Woolworths; and Mr D. Mackenzie Davey, an occupational psychologist.

The former general sub-committee of the Commons Select Committee on Expenditure complained in 1977 that recruitment figures for the AT grade demonstrated statistical biases in favour of Oxbridge arts graduates and former pupils of public schools.

Dr Allen's committee praises the "inherent fairness" of the Civil Service Selection Board and states that "if only the existing procedure were more widely known and understood, the Oxbridge myth would quickly be dispelled".

It criticises members of the expert committee for failing to take up an invitation to visit the selection board to see its procedures in operation.

In a statistical analysis designed to explain the Oxbridge bias, Dr Allen's committee discovered a relationship between successful candidates and those awarded first-class degrees by their universities. Of Oxbridge graduates 14 per cent take firsts compared with 5 per cent elsewhere. The success rate of Ox-

bridge applicants for AT appointments was 18 per cent. Only 5 per cent of those applying from elsewhere were admitted to the grade.

This finding, in turn, provided much of the explanation for the variation in the success rates of candidates educated at independent and maintained schools, because of the high proportion of the former group who had gone on to Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

A difference remains, however, with former pupils of direct-grant schools emerging as the most successful of the school groups", the report says.

The Allen committee points to the relative paucity of non-Oxbridge applicants for AT posts. In all, relatively few scientists came forward.

The report praises the objective element of the intelligence tests, drafting and committee exercises conducted by the board, and criticizes the expenditure committee for exaggerating the importance given to interviews.

While endorsing the general thrust of present practices, the report suggests some improvements, including:

Adaptability and generosity should be given greater weight.

Candidates with "forensic and thriving personality" should be welcomed provided they can work with others.

The commission should establish greater contacts with staff and students in non-Oxbridge universities and in the teaching profession. The field of applicants should be extended by more advertising.

The report reaffirms the commission's "commitment to fair competition and selection by merit".

*Report of the Committee on the Selection Procedure for the Recruitment of Higher Civil Service Trainees (Civil Service Commission, Old Admiralty Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2AZ).*

## Man who took bomb photograph bound over

A newspaper photographer, who was arrested after taking a photograph of an army bomb disposal officer at work, was cleared at Leeds Magistrates' Court yesterday of obstructing the police.

Bru F. D. L. Loy, the stipendiary magistrate, found Lawrence Robert Mercer, aged 52, a photographer with the Yorkshire Post, guilty of acting in a manner calculated to blemish the peace. Mr Mercer, of Meadow Gardens, Bardsey, Leeds, who had denied both charges, was bound over for £500 to keep the peace for 12 months.

When the hearing opened last week Mr Loy was told by the prosecution that it was not a case involving the freedom of the press.

Mr Richard Odey, for the prosecution, said bomb disposal officers were called last June to the Post Office sorting office in Aire Street, Leeds, to investigate a suspect package. One of the officers asked the police to tell photographers not to take pictures because the officers might be in personal danger if they were published.

Mr Mercer is alleged to have said: "I think I can take any photographs I like. But if you don't want them published you can put a D Notice on them". Mr Mercer left to speak to his editor and then returned and took a photograph. He was stopped.

Mr Loy said: "No one would wish to limit the freedom of the press, or to hamper them in any way at all. But to carry out their task they have to remain within the law. It seems a tragedy in this case that the defendant behaved rashly."

Later, Mr Robin Smith, representing Mr Mercer, said an appeal would be considered.

## Education department's restrictions over pay and grading limit efficiency'

By Kenneth Gosling  
Arts Reporter

A working party report on the organization and procedures of the Arts Council says today that the council is "clearly not an effective charge of its own operation". That is, says, because of restrictions placed on it by the Department of Education and Science over pay and grading.

Criticizing the pay rates of the council's officers within the Civil Service, the report says the restrictions constitute a serious limitation on the council's efficiency.

"The salaries represented by most of the grades are demonstrably below those available elsewhere to people offering the professional skills and experience required. In some cases the Council's posts compare unfavourably with positions of obviously less responsibility."

The response to public advertisement was sometimes so inadequate that no appointment could be made. It was not surprising, when officers in comparable positions in, say, local government were earning more, and the council's secretarial grades had fallen substantially behind the average levels for good secretaries in industry and commerce.

"Thus we have found the somewhat Gilbertian position that regional arts associations can sometimes offer higher salaries to officers than can the Arts Council itself. To some extent the continuing high level in turnover of staff (27 per cent in 1978) can be attributed to this situation."

In view of the working party's recommendations more important than freeing the council from the inhibiting straitjacket of controls to which we have referred".

Provided it was subject to certain constraints, there was no reason why it should not be allowed to manage its own affairs.

Also recommended is the upgrading of the post of Secretary-General, which was responsible for the substantive responsibilities it now carries, from the equivalent of Civil Service under-secretary (£16,714) to deputy secretary (£20,314). The post should be retitled Director-General.

The council is to take up with Mr Norman St John Stevas, minister with responsibility for arts, the question of greater general flexibility in

matters of pay and conditions.

The working party, which comprised Lord Hutchinson, Mr Howard Newby and Mr John Sainsbury, was set up 16 months ago to review the formal and working relationship between the council, its advisers and its senior officers.

Many of its recommendations have already been accepted by the council, some have been referred to the minister and others are still under consideration.

It has been agreed, for example, that there should be a wider "trust" for membership of the council, the council will ask the minister to consider extending the period of members' service from three to four years, with an option to renew for a further two; and

Also recommended is the upgrading of the post of Secretary-General, which was responsible for the substantive responsibilities it now carries, from the equivalent of Civil Service under-secretary (£16,714) to deputy secretary (£20,314). The post should be retitled Director-General.

The council agrees with the report's finding that subcommittees should be carefully reviewed, and where necessary paid advisers or assessors should be employed.

The working party reserves

its most serious criticisms not for the council but for the department. It had become aware, it said, through a great deal of the evidence submitted,

of a sense of malaise and a low level of morale among many of the staff.

"Sir Roy said that morale is more significantly attributable to the problems of pay and grading, inadequacies of the management structure and of communication and a lack of an agreed and understood policy accompanied by firm direction from the top."

The council as a whole, commanding a high degree of loyalty and commitment, still managed to do a remarkable job.

Of the department's role in the council's affairs, the report says: "The council is important because its own evaluation of the post is so often rejected by the DES."

"We find it unacceptable that in a number of cases, involving senior posts as well as middle management, it has taken several years of argument with the DES to secure agreement for straightforward promotions involving one step up the grading structure."

Sir Roy Shaw, Secretary-General of the Arts Council, said the implementation of the recommendations would mean a streamlining of the organization. "We are always trying to make sure that most of our money must go to the clients," he said.

*Northern Ireland Dept of Education Memorandum Report from the Comptroller of Public Accounts, 1978-9 Office, Command 77.*

## Electricity watchdog rendered ineffective

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

A fiercely critical report on the performance of the London Electricity Board, published today, claims that consumer consultative councils in the nationalized industries are ineffective because they lack independence, resources and adequate information to do their job properly.

The report was commissioned from the Public Interest Research Centre by the London Electricity Consultative Council and the Electricity Consumers' Council. It was intended to suggest ways in which the London Electricity Board's activities might be more effectively monitored.

The role of all consumer consultative councils in the nationalized industries is now under review by the Government.

The report's author, Mr Charles Medawar, suggests that the Government intends to limit the powers of councils which have always been denied resources. The Conservative Opposition said they must have when nationalization took place 20 years ago.

The report says there is a "startling" lack of information in the London Electricity Board's annual reports and accounts about areas in which

its performance is allegedly weak.

It says area electricity

in general report to irrelevant information, consumer consultative councils supply little useful info.

The report alleges excess unnecessary secrecy thr

the industry.

It reproduces extract

Electricity Council managemen

by the LRB and other

and says the selling are "profoundly anti-

The report asks: "it is appropriate that a

owned enterprise be bi

gaged in hoodwinki

humiliating the public

some, possibly causing economic deprivation as

Most of the work of c

consultative councils is

with individual co

which should have been

up by the electricity

themselves. Mr Medawar

Consultative differ so fundamentally

objectives that there

little hope of effective

ments.

*Consumers of Power: Improving the Performance of the London Electricity Board, by Charles M. Social Audit, 9 Poland Lane, W1V 3DG. 25p p and p.*

## Royal luncheon boycotted by Lord Mayor

By Trevor Fishlock

A royal luncheon was boycotted yesterday by the Lord Mayor of Manchester because, he claimed, he had been given an inferior position at the table.

The luncheon was at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, and the Duchess of Kent, the president, was guest of honour.

Mr Gerard Fitzsimmons decided not to stand when he saw the seating plan. He drove to the college with the Duchess, explained the situation and then returned to the town hall.

He said later that the Lord Mayor took precedence over all persons except members of the Royal Family, but the seating plan put the Duchess between the prince and the chairman of the college.

He agreed he had been put on to his camel "in the tail area" and that he had caused a lot of laughs. "That's where I landed up", he said, "so I thought I would stay there." The hearing continues today.

Mr Fitzsimmons, the actor, said in reply to Mr Adrian Whieldon, for Chipperfields, who deny that the camels were risky or dangerous, said: "Dorothy's camel had bolted and was out of control".

He was unaware the beasts were racing camels. He knew there were some who were a spectacle, but thought the camels would be led around.

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## WEST EUROPE

**Gaullist  
'Charge of  
Light  
Brigade'**

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Dec 12  
The Council of Ministers, at its weekly meeting, today authorized M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, to pledge the responsibility of his Government on the second reading of the Budget and Social Security Bills in the National Assembly. This follows the decision of the Gaullists to abstain from voting.

The opposition is certain to table the ritual motions of censure, in the autumn session, which was to have ended on December 21, will probably have to be extended by 48 hours. After that, the Government will have a free hand for more than three months.

It will be the third and fourth times within two and a half months that M. Barre has resorted to Article 49 of the Constitution to push through what he regards as essential policy measures against the opposition of Gaullists in the Government majority.

The Gaullists are indulging in a "charge of the Light Brigade" without advantage, against what they have come to regard as the batteries of the enemy, while refusing to vote with the opposition to bring the Government down.

Their position is accurately summed up in a cartoon by Chevez in *Le Monde* today which shows M. Jacques Chirac charging the Prime Minister's battery as he sticks to his gun and disdainfully glances at the array of cannon balls marked "constitution".

M. Barre has made an attempt to conceal his batteries. He told the Lyons daily *Rhône-Alpes* in an interview: "I am sure the country would severely condemn any group of (the) parliamentary majority which, in the difficult circumstance our country and world are going through, brought into question the 'good choice' of 1978 (the election result) and thus exposed it to instability and adventure."

He reiterated the threat of dissolution, to which many Gaullists MPs, who owe their seats to Gaullist support, are not insensitive. If a parliamentary majority failed the Government, essentially because it disagreed with the policy it pursues under the authority of the President, it is the people who would decide".

**Restyled Herr Strauss loses much of his colour**

From Patricia Clough

Bonn, Dec 12  
The week has seen the appearance in Bonn of a restyled Herr Franz-Josef Strauss—a restrained, matter-of-fact, visibly aware of his new responsibilities as opposition candidate for the chancellorship.

The occasion for what amounted to his real debut as candidate for Chancellor was the budget in the Bundestag in which he launched into a general attack on Herr Helmut Schmidt.

He accused them of errors, shortcomings, and failures on a wide range of policies and declared them incapable of running the country.

His style, however, was oddly restrained compared with his flamboyant and often violent attacks in the past. He stuck for the main part to an obviously carefully prepared text rather than permitting himself the colourful and sometimes outrageous off-the-cuff remarks

**Euro-MPs still ready to throw out 1980 budget after dramatic peace initiative by EEC ministers**

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Dec 12

The EEC's Council of Ministers met here today in an unprecedented bid to approve the European Parliament so that it will not throw out the Community's draft budget for 1980.

The mere fact that the meeting was taking place was itself a measure of the enhanced status of the assembly, which was elected directly for the first time in June this year.

The first round of discussions between the council and a parliamentary delegation led by Madame Simone Veil, the assembly's president, left Euro-MPs firm in their resolve to reject the budget.

The Parliament was asking for restoration of some £430m in non-agricultural spending cut last month by EEC budget ministers. More importantly, the Parliament wanted member states to agree to an increased tax on milk producers by a specified date next year.

The ministers were prepared to issue a statement promising to bear in mind the Parliament's views when member states meet next spring to fix EEC farm

prices and decide on related measures to reduce agricultural costs.

But Euro-MPs made it clear that they wanted a specific commitment from member states to the Parliament, in order to establish its right as an institution to have a say in determining the level of farm spending.

Several member states, France and Denmark among them, are extremely reluctant to concede this principle. National governments have always insisted that farm spending, which consumes 75 per cent of the budget, is outside parliamentary control.

At far as increasing non-farm spending is concerned, mainly such things as regional industrial and social aid, member states were unwilling to offer more than a maximum of £130m, well below what the assembly demanded.

The Parliament's budget committee has prepared a fall-back position if it should prove impossible tomorrow to muster the two-thirds majority needed for budget rejection. It would involve the Parliament's voting

Ministers.

Leading article, page 12

to reject the budget all the cuts made by member states.

The Parliament can do this by a three-fifths majority, but such an increase would be challenged by member states taking total non-farm spending above the ceiling set each year by the European Commission.

If the budget is rejected, spending next year would have to be held to this year's level.

But the Council of Ministers would still have the right to vote some increases in farm spending.

British diplomats, Ministers and members of the delegation to take towards British Euro-MPs and their determination to take part in the rejection of the budget (Michael Hatfield writes).

While their action gives support to the Government's position over British contributions to the EEC, ministers are expressing private concern at the additional powers that may accrue to Euro-MPs. In the long term, ministers strongly believe, the real power must reside with the Council of Ministers.

Leading article, page 12

**British farmers looking for substantial price rises**

By Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

British farmers yesterday called for substantial price rises and a further devaluation of the "green pound". They said that the £150m annual increase in their returns resulting from the latest devaluation would be swallowed up by a 21 per cent wage rise to farm workers.

Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "The union is encouraged that the Government has recognized the current problems facing producers, but further measures are necessary."

The union wants increases on all products governed by EEC farm policy at the annual Community price-fixing next year. It rejects the Government's policy of seeking a freeze on EEC milk prices and wants a rise of about 2p a pint

**ETA frees Madrid politician**

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Dec 12

The Basque secessionist organization ETA today freed a leading politician unharmed after holding him hostage for 31 days in a demand for the release of five imprisoned ETA militants and a public inquiry into allegations of police torture.

There was no official acknowledgement of any deal, but the release of Señor Javier Rupérez, an MP, and chief spokesman of the ruling Centre Democratic Union, was believed to mark the successful conclusion of secret bargaining between ETA and unofficial representatives of the Government.

ETA's demand was that more and more people would be released from prison, and southern Africa would become a battleground. The risk in the third course—going for a settlement—was that it would not work.

As Lord Carrington saw it,

Lord Carrington keeping his fingers crossed yesterday at a Brussels meeting

this course, which has taken place, they fear—that the guerrillas will remain on the rampage and be substantially removed.

**OVERSEAS****Carrington strategy calculated carefully**

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

Despite talk of Lord Carrington's "final gamble" in sending Lord Soames to Rhodesia, his diplomacy is far more calculated than it appears. The ceasefire talks, which continued behind the scenes yesterday, are not a gamble, but the last stage in a very carefully judged strategy.

When people talk about the risks of something going wrong, the Foreign Secretary would be the last to deny it. As he sees it, 100 things could go wrong. Every day is going to bring its own crisis. What is extraordinary is that the settlement has got so far—hence his emphasis on keeping the momentum going.

There were three options the Government had at its disposal when it came to power last May. One was to go with the mood of the Conservative Party, as expressed by the Prime Minister himself, which was to recognize Bishop Mugabe's government whatever the rest of the world said.

Another option was to do nothing at all and "waffle" around the problem. The third was to have the courage to try for a settlement, despite the bad omens of previous failures.

The point many critics seemed to miss is that each of these strategies was full of risks. The risk in recognizing the Mugabe regime is that Britain would alienate most of its friends, and suffered an incalculable commercial loss.

The risk in the second course of no-action was that more and more people would be released from prison, and southern Africa would become a battleground. The risk in the third course—going for a settlement—was that it would not work.

As Lord Carrington saw it,



Lord Carrington keeping his fingers crossed yesterday at a Brussels meeting

this assembly has taken place, they fear—that the guerrillas will remain on the rampage and be substantially removed.

"Each side," as the proposals put it, "can be informed of the other's movements, and there can be no misunderstanding of each other's intentions".

Many things can go wrong in this process and probably will. It is not really a gamble, it is the best risk in the circumstances.

If the Rhodesians see that

**American doubts on lifting sanctions**

From David Crass

Washington, Dec 12

The United States today issued a strong appeal to the Patriotic Front negotiators in London to conclude an agreement promptly for a ceasefire in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

A State Department spokesman said it would be "disastrous" if a final peace settlement were to falter on this last obstacle. Britain's chief compromise proposal for concluding a ceasefire was to allow the rebels to stay in their bases.

He named the former CIA station chief in Tehran as Mr William Wood and recalled a conversation with him in the last days of the Shah's rule.

"Farah [the Emir] wanted me to find out how the revolution could be stopped," he said. "So I went to the embassy to see Wood—I do not know if that was his real name—and he told me that the Shah could not stop the revolution without killing perhaps two million people. So I went back and told Farah. That was just before the Shah left Iran."

Someone claiming to speak on ETA's behalf telephoned the house of Señor Rupérez at 6.30 am and told his brother, Ignacio, that he had been released on the outskirts of Burgos.

After being brought back to Madrid, Señor Rupérez went to the Moncloa Palace for a private meeting with Señor Adolfo Suárez, the Prime Minister. At his home, he was reunited with his Dutch wife, Geraldine, and his baby daughter.

Among those who made public appeals for his release were the Pope, Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine guerrilla leader, Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mother Teresa.

ETA has carried out at least 23 kidnappings in Spain in past nine years, killing two of them hostages and "kneecapping" most of the rest.

"I joined because I knew that Savak's name stood partly for security and I believed in security. I wanted to serve my country. I had no political affiliations and that is why I was asked to join."

The latest appeal reflects some concern here that Lord Soames has arrived in Salisbury before Bishop Mugabe before a final peace agreement has been reached. This is complicating the American Administration's plans for lifting economic sanctions.

The Administration is under pressure from Britain to end the American boycott promptly—certainly not later than this week—so that the policies of the two allies towards Zimbabwe-Rhodesia

remain on the books. He did not specify what kind of difficulties he envisaged.

Responding to questions about the memorandum, a

State Department spokesman said the Administration's main concern was that there should be a consensus in the international community about the lifting of sanctions. There was as yet "no change" in United States policy towards the question but an announcement might be made soon.

The spokesman reiterated that American policy would continue to be "that no party should have a veto over fair settlement proposals".

This comment seemed to indicate that Washington will soon decide to lift sanctions in line with President Carter's promise that the economic embargo should end when a British governor has assumed authority in Salisbury and a process leading to impartial elections has begun.

In a memorandum to his colleagues at the State Department, Mr McHenry says: "We believe that the sanctions should continue until the Security Council, which originally authorized them, has acted formally to rescind them."

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**Moscow says Britain's role 'neo-colonial'**

From Michael Buxton

Moscow, Dec 12

By sending Lord Soames to Rhodesia, the British Government is pursuing its aim of putting pressure on the Patriotic Front, imposing its ceasefire terms on it and presenting it with a "fair accommodation".

Accusing Britain of neo-colonial aims, Tass said the hasty attempt to speed up a settlement advantageous to it would not solve Rhodesia's problems and was fraught with serious consequences.

Lord Soames was described as a man from a class linked by deep roots with those Tory circles which form the so-called Rhodesia lobby. He held the most extreme right-wing views and would not remain neutral in the political struggle between the Salisbury administration and the Patriotic Front.

Opening the debate, Sir Ian Gilmore told the House that a settlement could not have been achieved without a British involvement in supervising elections.

As Sir Ian was questioned on Lord Soames' visit to Rhodesia in advance of a final ceasefire agreement, he said:

"As the Commons embarked on the second reading of the Zimbabwe Bill, Mr Peter Shore, Opposition foreign affairs spokesman, said he had accepted the proposal for a ceasefire in advance of a final ceasefire agreement.

All the prisoners made it clear that they had made their peace with their conscience for whatever they may have done.

A touch of irony was added when an official asked the Shah's former Minister of Health and Social Security—now serving a life sentence in the last year of the Shah's rule. But it nonetheless emphasized the intricate workings of Savak's cumbersome and ruthless bureaucracy, and in the process it said a good deal about the mentality of a secret police force.

For instance, did not the Shah ask why he joined Savak?

"I joined because I knew that Savak's name stood partly for security and I believed in security. I wanted to serve my country. I had no political affiliations and that is why I was asked to join."

The story might not be true, but it was apparently accepted by the Foreign Secretary.

The assurances given on Tuesday to Mr Callaghan and Mr Short by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Ian Gilmore, Lord Privy Seal and foreign affairs spokesman, were received under the Shah. He has now resigned in protest, he said, but had stayed in Iran after the revolution to await his fate.

Although the Savak men were prepared to talk to the press, they asked not to be photographed.

Their wish was not met. Nor was it likely to be by the Iranian journalists and others who had just toured the Savak interrogation centre in central Tehran.

It was disclosed how they were tortured. A black-tiled room with a concrete floor was all that remained of the chamber where prisoners were roasting on beds over gas burners.

At the press conference, for one terrible moment, Mr Sadaf died, confronted by a man whose daughter had died in his custody.

"You killed my daughter", the man shouted. "She was born all over her flesh until she was paralysed. She was raped."

Mr Sadaf glanced briefly at the man: "Your daughter hanged herself after seven months in custody," he replied quietly. The man said there was not even a sheet in the prison from which an inmate could hang himself.

"Yes there was", said Mr Sadaf. He had himself seen the laundry bills at Ervin prison.

Outside the gates of Ervin jail, a flood of people were waiting for news of relatives. One woman in a veil said that there were more prisoners in Ervin than before the revolution, a statement that was not factually correct but which did nothing for the Ministry's propaganda line.

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## OVERSEAS

## Britain's conciliatory attitude to PLO rouses Israeli anger

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem, Dec 12

A serious difference of opinion has emerged between the British and Israeli Government over the role of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which could have far-reaching repercussions for the future of Britain's policy in the Middle East.

Full details of the rift have yet to be made public, but Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, last night told a meeting of his supporters in the Knesset that he regarded "a certain honoured guest" as suffering from an "optical illusion" about the PLO.

The barb was aimed directly at Mr Donald Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who arrived here on Monday as the first British minister to visit Israel since the Conservatives came to power.

I understand that the dispute centres on Mr Hurd's attempts to convince Mr Begin and other senior Israeli ministers that the PLO is no wading a more "diplomatic and political approach" which should be taken into consideration when assessing its standing in the Middle East peace process.

Although Britain has not gone so far as to recognise the PLO officially, Mr Hurd's remarks touched a very sore nerve inside the Israeli Cabinet. In recent weeks some ministers have been increasingly concerned at what they see as a more conciliatory attitude towards the PLO being adopted by several leading EEC countries.

Anger with Britain has been increased by two recent events: the decision to sell 270 Chieftain tanks to Jordan and widely publicised reports of a "social meeting" between Sir Ian Gilmour, the Lord Privy Seal and Mr Farouq Gadaffi, head of the PLO political department, at a diplomatic cocktail party in London last week.



Major Bob Astles, British-born former aide, to ex-President Amin, interviewed in Kampala jail for a Thames Television programme tonight.

## South Africa says blacks may train to be pilots

From Ray Kennedy  
Johannesburg, Dec 12

Blacks can train as pilots in the South African Air Force if they have the basic qualifications. Defence headquarters in Pretoria said today. It was commented on reports that the Air Force is short of pilots and that blacks would be happy to enlist for training if given the chance.

The defence force said that any South African citizen between the ages of 17 and 24 with standard 10-equivalent to British A level—passes in mathematics, English and Afrikaans could apply for pilot training.

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However, few blacks attain such qualifications as education available to them in South Africa is generally regarded as inferior to that provided for whites.

The Air Force considers its training is among the strictest and most efficient in the world.

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Fire, caused by electrical short circuits, broke out in several parts of both towns. The inhabitants appealed for emergency relief to the sent by helicopter.

Deaths were also reported in the towns of Cali and Ipiales. Seventeen towns were said to have suffered heavy damage.

In Bogota, where the earthquake was felt, there was alarm among residents of high-rise buildings. The police said no damage was caused though several fires had broken out.

The Red Cross said it was organizing an emergency helicopter service to the devastated area, using Air Force machines to help the victims.

Both she and Mr Kopp are Democrats, but San Francisco mayoral elections are non-partisan.

## Town razed to ground in Colombian earthquake

Bogotá, Dec 12.—A hundred people were killed and hundreds more injured in a devastating earthquake which struck western Colombia early today.

El Charco, a town of 7,000 people near the border with Ecuador, was reported to have been razed.

A policeman telephoned for help from El Charco, but normal communications were off shortly after the call.

The instant spokesman said his organization was using its own communication network.

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## A World View: Arrigo Levi analyses nightmares raised by Tehran events

### Iranian crisis a cocktail of all the elements that can make the world unstable

We shall long remember the closing weeks of this decade as a season of fears. We started fearing for the lives of the American hostages in Tehran, but we soon realized that, in this fragile world of ours, limited and well defined fears quickly awake much stronger feelings of alarm, which we usually bury in the depth of our consciousness since they are too painful.

We are now afraid that America may over-react to the Iranian challenge and that this may lead to a confrontation with the Soviet Union, with all its awesome implications; or to a breakdown of oil production and deliveries, and to the world economic crisis. But we are equally afraid that the opposition to America be revealed as a paper tiger incapable of protecting its own citizens, and that America's allies may be unable or unwilling to help.

These are fears related to the near future. Beyond them, there is an awareness that the Iranian crisis may be a model for others to come. Tehran, that inhuman city, fruit of modernization gone crazy, is itself an embryonic model for those uncontrollable urban sprawls which futurologists see growing throughout the developing world.

By the year 2000, they say, Mexico City could have as many as 32 million inhabitants, São Paulo 26 million, Calcutta, Shanghai, Seoul, Cairo, Karachi from 16 to 24 million.

During the same decades, the growth of nuclear energy will have made fissile material and related technologies widely available, also for military purposes. So not only have we got the first "Islamic bomb"? Social and political potential, makes a frightening combination, which we may have to deal with. Apart from the nuclear dimension, one can

find in the Iranian crisis an almost complete cocktail of the elements which will make the world unstable: the interaction between the ills of modernization and traditional religious or nationalistic passions; the ready fanaticism of mobs living in a megalopolis; the nearness of a local crisis to areas of strategic turbulence, together with atomic sensitivity involving the super-powers; finally, the lack of proportion between a local flare-up and its potential disruptive effects on the world economy.

If similar crises are bound to happen again in the future, what lessons ought to be drawn? In the Iranian case? An obvious one concerns the relations between the super-powers in the third world: one would like to see an agreed neutralization of potentially explosive areas, in order to make them less likely to become detonators for something worse. But the most pressing lesson from Iran concerns just the West and its most serious weakness, which is its economic dependence upon other nations.

This refers almost exclusively to oil. There is no comparable dependence of the Western economy on other rare raw materials, although some of these have been increasingly concentrated by nature in a few areas, not all of them easily controllable by the West.

It is true that there is a certain measure of economic interdependence between producers and consumers between those who need oil and those who want to buy industrial goods. But the relation is usually only one-sided, not one of the two sides is in a position to sell what the other can buy. The seventh industrial power in the world or the desert kingdom. The fact is that Italy just cannot do without Arabian oil, while Arabia has money to buy twice everything it desires elsewhere.

If we want to make future "Iranian" crises less dangerous, we shall not only need more deterrents between East and West, and more cooperation between West and West. We shall also need to regain as quickly as possible our economic independence, which we lost some time in the last 20 years: in 1979 Britain's oil imports would increase in the Middle East and from the Suez Canal blocked without fear of strangling the West. In 1979 an omnipotent America cannot do the same in the Hormuz straits.

America is made helpless not just by that fear, but also by the knowledge that the whole Western economy would be thrown into disarray if the United States Navy imposed a total economic blockade on Iran. Europe knows that it can leave with the dangerous feelings of helplessness and despair the United States into desperate acts. So far the Ayatollah has

worked because it is a double blackmail: on 50 American lives, and on the economy of the West, especially Europe and Japan.

This means that even the political independence of these powerful and rich nations is no longer what it was. Why did Britain offer Mr Vance "a polite refusal" to get involved in economic sanctions against Iran? Out of indifference or out of necessity? And look how Italy has gone begging cap-in-hand for Saudi Arabian oil, since the flow was interrupted by a Saudi show of bad temper after somebody revealed a minor case of corruption. Who was brought in?

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The discovery made by the Ayatollah about the weakness of the West can be put to even worse use by others in the future. Ultimately, it is not our prosperity that is in danger, but our political independence and freedom. It is not just the 50 hostages in Tehran that are endangering the lives of the 500 million people of the world.

Speaking after reviewing a military parade and a fly past by the Kenya Air Force, President Moi commanded Kenyans to observe the law and regulations relating to the conduct of the military.

Most research is carried out in state laboratories, and if an effective product is discovered it is sent to the Ministry of Medical Industry which finds a suitable factory to try it out.

Doctors issue prescriptions even if the hospitals have no supplies. There are numerous stories of dentists working with people living from month to month, never sure whether their prescriptions can be renewed.

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## SPORT

## Football

## O'Hare finds an extra gear as Forest drive on relentlessly

By Norman Fox  
Football Correspondent

Nottingham Forest 3 West Ham 0

Whether it was the irresistible promise of another crack at Liverpool or the semi-final run of the fear of losing a favourite team of silverware, Nottingham Forest defended their Football League Cup by the bare means at the separated City Ground last night. They were not afraid to risk it. They took more than 100 minutes of an exhausting replay before they finally broke through, but when one goal came two more quickly followed.

Reversing the trend of the week before, Forest took the game to the final 90 minutes and, considering the slippery, deteriorating conditions, played some much improved football. The West Ham goal was the echo of a muddy turmoil as Parkes scrambled to keep a greasy ball from squirming across his line. He succeeded until the first period of extra time though not without much of personal effort.

Conditions dictated that the ball had to be struck firmly, but it was not easily controlled. Francis transacted the problems, as one would expect of such a fine player but more surprisingly the mud did not seem to have been fully involved in his attack. Several of Forest's better attacks and scored the crucial first goal. The fact that Bowyer had been bought from Queen's Park Rangers, and will soon threaten O'Hare, probably had something to do with it.

Francis kept his feet excellently while the driving rain made the pitch unpredictable. He forced a good save from Parkes after the game and offered Bowyer a

defence-splitting pass to chase a few minutes later. Bowyer's shot went wide but served to show West Ham the pressure they would be under. Bowyer's disappointment was almost given a painful further twist when he brought down Allen, dangerous near the penalty area. Somehow he cleared the defensive well but Shilton scrambled the ball away for a corner.

West Ham attacked when they could, which was rarely. Forest had all the momentum and even Francis was guilty of failing to take them in the first 90 minutes. A breakaway sparked by Birdie ended with O'Hare shooting into a well defended goal. Parkes had all rebounded. O'Neill hit the poor and finally Francis was able to make the most of the confusion, kicking high over the bar.

Bowyer did his best to involve

Reid in the right sticky business. West Ham defended stubbornly in that area. Their own conductor of movement, Parkes, found himself trampled through the mud without more than the occasional hint of the unexpected. Doing the ordinary things was difficult enough for most players on this pitch.

Bowyer's powerful shot from 25 yards was turned away by Parkes and Birdie sent another shot over the top when Francis cleverly created a good opening. Shilton saved a late free kick called upon to make a serious save after the twenty-second minute.

If Forest had been able to finish the attack they created extra opportunities but had to settle for their only real goal on a night when in most areas of their play a better touch remained. The feeling continued until, after



O'Hare: scorer of Forest's crucial first goal.

100 arduous minutes, Birdie centred hard into the penalty area and poor overworked Parkes, who had played so bravely, now clutched at the ball but let it slip and O'Hare bundled it over the line. The ball had been set up Birdie for a 25-yard shot that soared into the top of the net, and in the second half of extra time O'Hare swept away the right wing cut in and curled the ball over the bar. The score was 2-0 after 15 minutes, added another after 66 minutes, and Harrock underlined his side's domination with a third 13 minutes from the end.

WEST HAM UNITED: P. Parkes; R. Summer, F. Lampard, W. Bonds, A. Reid, C. Parker, D. Shilton, J. Deveraux, D. Cross, T. Brooking, A. Francis. Substitutes: N. J. Azler. (Nottingham).

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: G. Bowyer, V. Anderson, F. Gray, B. Bowles, L. Bowles, N. O'Hare, G. Birley, T. Francis, J. Robertson.

## Goalkeeper complains after letting in six and is sent off

Match: goalkeepers of Diogenes Miskolc of Hungary, was shown the red card for complaining in the last minute of the Uefa Cup tie with Kaiserslautern, of West Germany. He had a lot to complain about: he let in six goals. Kaiserslautern were through to the quarter-finals, winning 6-1 last night and 8-1 on aggregate.

Neves with a penalty in the fourth minute, equalised in the fifty-second. Benmerah in the sixty-second, Kaminko in the sixtieth, Bongartz in the seventy-eighth and Stabel, the other goalkeeper, with another penalty in the ninetieth minute were the scorers. Borosjan scored for the Hungarians in the fifty-fourth minute.

Dynamo Kiev, the only Russian side to have won a European club trophy, bowed out of the Uefa tournaments despite beating Lokomotiv Sofia 2-1 in Kiev for a 2-2 aggregate. The Bulgarians qualified on one away-goal rule.

Two goals in three minutes, before a 10-minute interval, put West Germany 2-0 up early on aggregate. The drama was reserved for the second half when four suddenly blanketed the pitch and Dolchev, of Lokomotiv, popped in the all-important goal 17 minutes from time. The Kirovets' record goal had been ordered off along with a Bulgarian, Dimitrov.

In Saloula, Aris found their 4-1 away leg deficit too much against St Etienne, of France. Two goals in the last six minutes gave the Greeks a 3-3 draw on the day. Their prospects of saving the tie were dimmed when the Spaniards had a disappointing eight minutes after the start when Jean-François Larrieu scored to put the French club four goals up.

## Traditional strengths give North the upper hand

By Stuart Jones

North 2 The northerners march on. For the second year now they have beaten their schoolboy rivals at Birmingham and they did so again yesterday morning, although their own tactical play almost undermined them. They kept one of their best players, John Francis, out of the side until the interval and it was only when they were unwell that the North took command.

Before noon the southern team proved successful. Using a double spearhead, they brought Brummen, also a sweeper, out into the open and there he was exposed as his goalkeeper, out of position, lay waste to the shooting of the southern men.

Wyatt and Andrews seemed more likely to damage the windows behind Palmer than his net.

But armed with their traditional strength in the air (apparently in decline for two years ago) and understanding, the North had the afternoon to their own. Mann started most of the attacks from left back and took a long time to get out of the way involved. Stretton controlled midfield and up front lay the deadly Wood, the scorer of a remarkable 45 goals for Repton this season.

Significantly, all three were involved in the opening goal—a sweeping move down the left, a

long cross and there was Stretton in open territory, to thump unerringly home. The final blow signalled the South's demise, although McKenna, the substitute keeper and one of six to travel down from Blackburn, did his best to keep them alive with two blinding errors.

The rest of the battle was

sight, anyone, when the South were finally finished off by Howard from Pollock's cross. Their brave resistance owed much to the influence of Robson.

WEST HAM UNITED: P. Parker, R. Summer, F. Lampard, W. Bonds, A. Reid, C. Parker, D. Shilton, J. Deveraux, D. Cross, T. Brooking, A. Francis. Substitutes: N. J. Azler. (Nottingham).

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: G. Bowyer, V. Anderson, F. Gray, B. Bowles, L. Bowles, N. O'Hare, G. Birley, T. Francis, J. Robertson.

## Hockey

### Fitness tips the balance for Pay Corps

By Sydney Friskin

R.A.C.P. 3 RAF Support Comd 1

The Royal Army Pay Corps joined the last 16 teams in the national club championship, sponsored by the Royal Air Force Support Command at Portsmouth yesterday. Both sides had already beaten the Royal Marines in a round-robin tournament in the morning.

A number of exercises obviously took heavy physical toll, but a slight advantage in fitness tipped the scales in favour of the Pay Corps who recovered from an early set-back to square accounts by half-time.

This was a game of lost opportunity, more so in situations where a score seemed more likely than a miss. Delays in taking shots often helped the goalkeepers to get out and stay away, often at considerable risk.

Support Command were a little unlucky to lose because they had much the better of a fast and furious first half. Hedley, combining with Williams, had a great chance through. After Hedley had given them the lead from a short corner, Channa flicked a square pass from Hedley high into the net but the goal, unfortunately, was off.

A renewal of endeavour by the Pay Corps earned them several short corners from which they twice came close to the score. But it was not until the half-time break after Corrigan had been obstructed near the goal, that they managed to draw level, Hardwick converting.

A few early manoeuvres

by the club's current scrum-half, Steve Kennedy, Leicester's much respected coach, V. Williams, Wales' coach, has not gone to the great rugby schools where they were taught to play properly. There are boys being taught mini-games now by people who know nothing about the game.

Moreover, the 1960s, and certainly the 1970s, have been times in which jargon in many walks of life has proliferated. Abbreviations, jargonised speech, and acronyms, inside (but not to be understood by people who do not know what a I.P.T.O. is), ac-second nature. Since

Leicester's president, Eric Lacey, himself a talented second row forward during the late 1940s and early 1950s, admits that he would have enjoyed having the young players grow up reading that it would have made him a better player. It is also White's contention that, in England at any rate, there are no so many quality players in circulation.

This is due as much as anything to social circumstances, changes in the increasing number of leisure activities available to young men with money to burn from a comparatively tender age.

People who would have been at school as rugby was the main sport for them now have other choices to do other than play rugby". White says.

"Coaches are helping ordinary

players get to positions they would never have occupied some years ago. We have widened our participation," Williams said.

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rugby (as for administrators) still finding out, sometimes painfully) does not exist in a vacuum, it reflects such trends.

Williams' players have their own particular favourites: White

prefers the expression short side to blind side because he feels it is much more accurate. And when coaches gather round a table their talk can indeed be defined in various ways—jargon, symbolism, tactics, strategy, attack, defence, offence, defence (and all their connotations). It is not there deliberately to baffle the administrator or to remove the initiative from the player. Indeed, the best way to express ideas so that one could understand them

is to teach them to play rugby".

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PARLIAMENT, December 12, 1979

## Rugby unions urged to bear in mind implications of tour

House of Commons

The Government hoped that anyone responsible for staging tours such as those proposed to South Africa was aware of the implications. Mr Hector Moore, Under Secretary for the Environment and Minister for Sport, said at question time.

Mr Tom Doherty (West Lothian, Lab) had asked Mr Moore for a statement on his discussions with the rugby unions of Scotland, England and Wales on proposed tours of South Africa.

Mr Moore (Dumfries, C)—The Home Office was fully and truly aware of the Government's stand on proposed tours to and from South Africa as set out in our press statement of September 14. This was again made clear during our recent informal meeting with the chairman of the Tours Committee.

Mr Doherty—Would not British participation in the Olympic and Commonwealth Games be jeopardized? (Conservative shouting "so what")

Mr Moore—We hope anyone who is responsible for staging such a tour will be aware that the British Rugby Union is not an Olympic sport. It is for the IOC to decide which country should participate.

Mr Nicholas Winterbottom (Macclesfield, C)—Why has he adopted the attitude he has to proposed tours in South Africa? Taking tours to South Africa can offend the people of South Africa and speed up the processes that are already taking place in that country.

If he accepts the attitude that he has expressed, and I find it difficult to believe that he does, how can he accept Olympic Games in one of the most horrific and totalitarian countries in the world? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Moore—The Government's position is made clear from the statement on September 14. We will discuss possible changes if and when sufficient progress has been made towards integration of sport in South Africa.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport, Lab)—

## Fall in council staffs represents a start

An increase in local authority employment since the Government asked for a curb on further recruitment in the interests of economy was reported by Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services (Bridgewater, C).

He told Mr Thomas Benyon (Abingdon, 1977), the general manager of the Weymouth and Portland National Park, that there were 11,271 full-time equivalent staff in local authorities in England and Wales.

This figure represented a decrease of 11,871 full-time equivalent staff since June 1979 but were still 18,185 up on the figure for September 1978.

Mr Benyon—Councils are still employing more staff than at the end last year. The figure for the employment of local authority staff is standing at an all-time high.

Mr King—I certainly hope all MPs, and particularly those who are most profuse in their complaints about savings cuts in local government, will look to local authority power figures. Right across a wide category of employment in local authorities there is a continuing increase in employment since we asked for a curb on further employment in the needs of economy.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bognor, Lab)—Even Conservative local authorities are standing out in opposition to the Government's policies. Within local government, particularly among Conservative councils, there is a strong feeling that the proposal the Government is making to the local authority arm of the civil service and the proposal to reintroduce political honours is a cynical and mercenary move by the Government to pay off Tory local councillors who are opposed to the Government's policies. (Labour cheers.)

Mr King—The reductions we are seeking are nothing like as savage as those imposed on local author-

## Role of reserve forces in nation's defence

House of Lords

The armed services depended not only on individual reinforcement to bring them up to strength on mobilisation, but also on units of territorial volunteers, including the Territorial Army. Lord Gernarthur (C) said when he opened a short debate on reserve forces.

He said the main purpose of the reserves was to complete their contribution to the mobilised and assist in maintaining a secure United Kingdom base.

It was argued, at a time of national penury, that any advance in the defence budget would be used to meet the needs of the nation as the social services and other areas of the welfare state.

Expense was one thing, but value for money was another. For example, the cost of the territorial Army to the nation was just over 3 per cent of the arms share of the total defence budget. Yet the Territorial Army did not receive compensation for widows of Territorial Army members.

Lord Shulman (Lab) said he welcomed the improvements in the boundary of the Territorial Army Council last week. It was clear that it was excited by its future. The Government had agreed to give the Territorial Army the same status as the social services and other areas of the welfare state.

This was considerable cost-effectiveness and the value it represented as part of their overall defence effort was in the deepest interests of the country.

Lord Shulman (Lab) said he had repeatedly advised the need for streamlining the reserve forces. If they went on raiding and raiding without doing anything, one fine

day they would catch it in the neck and have to return to conscription.

Lord Caithcart (C) said there was a need for a gradual increase in the reserve forces, mostly for security purposes in the United Kingdom. He believed this would assist in manning those reserve forces.

Lord Caithcart was an essential component for a sound defence policy.

The Earl of Ayles (C) said the attitude had changed between 1975 and 1979, and that asked questions about whether it was justified in certain areas. Mr Tom King, Minister of State for Local Government, said during other questions, it was important to see what was happening in the recruitment within individual authorities.

Mr King—We have had some well-publicized statements by some authorities, but the great majority of responsible authorities now recognise the seriousness of the situation.

Local authority employment had gone up from 1975 to 1979, but in the last 15 years and that asked questions about whether it was justified in certain areas. Mr Tom King, Minister of State for Local Government, said during other questions, it was important to see what was happening in the recruitment within individual authorities.

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Local authority employment had gone

Report December 12-1979

## Decision that Italian families were intentionally homeless' upheld

**Falco v Crawley Borough Council**

Mr Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Justice Bridge, Sir David Cairns

A Court of Appeal declined to interim mandatory injunction against a local authority requiring them to provide accommodation for two young Italian families where they were "satisfactorily homeless" by coming to the court without having sought accommodation from the council.

In **LORDSHIP**, in a case dismissed, Italian nationals working in this country under the provisions of Community Law, from cases of Mr Justice Chapman, members to grant them mandatory injunctions.

Regulation No 1612/86 EEC provides: "A worker is a national of a member state or is employed in the territory of another member state, enjoys all the rights and is accorded the same treatment in matters of housing."

De Falco had been out of Naples and brought his baby son to England. He stayed with the wife's parents but found no work. But when his wife became pregnant the De Falcos were asked to leave on September 21. They told the council they accommodated.

Mr Silvestri, with two small children, decided to come back to England when his job in Italy came to an end. Before he left he heard that a flat had been provided under the law in **ASEF** (1972) 2 QB 433 and other cases and endorsed in the context of the Act by the Lord Chief Justice in **R v Bristol City Council, Ex parte Brown** (1979) 3 All ER 344.

The applicants said that the council had observed the Code of Guidance prepared by the Department of Environment and Social Security and the Welsh Office. Paragraph 2.18 of the code said: "In assessing whether a person has become homeless: consider the most immediate cause of that homelessness rather than events that may have taken place previously. It would be inappropriate to treat as intentionally homeless a person who gave up accommodation to move to another town or find a new job after a few months that they could no longer continue to accommodate him."

If that paragraph were to be treated as a binding statement, the council ought not to have looked at the families' position when they left Italy but at their position when they arrived, or released, in England three days earlier. That the council did not do.

But his Lordship was quite clear that the code should not be regarded as a binding statement. The council had to have regard to section 12, but having done so they could depart from it if they thought fit. The present were cases where they were perfectly entitled to depart from it. In particular, it was very well for people coming from Yugoslavia, but it should not be applied to people coming from a Common Market country. Section 15 showed that people having a connection with another area in which they did not have a claim to accommodation.

As to the grant of an interlocutory injunction, the present cases were not the same as **American Cyanamide** (1975) AC 356 because the applicants could give no reasonable explanation for taking damages. No injunction should be granted against the council unless a prima facie case was made out that the finding of "intentionally homeless" was incorrect. It should not be granted unless it was shown where, on an application for judicial review, certiorari would be granted to quash the decision and mandamus issued to command them to consider the case afresh.

Stephen Brown in **Flicker v Moles Valley District Council** (unreported, October 29, 1979) when he granted an interlocutory injunction ordering the council to make a decision on permanent accommodation for the German dweller was erroneous.

On the point that the council had allowed the families only four days to leave the guest houses and that was too short a time to make a decision, his Lordship thought regard could be had to the five or six weeks they had already been in the guest houses and the four or five more weeks during the present proceedings intended to find other accommodation.

Crawley council had Gattwick airport in their area. If any family from the Common Market could fly into Gattwick, stay a month or two, with reference to the point that they were "intentionally homeless" it would be a more serious matter for the "overcrowded" borough. They should be able to do better than King Canute. He had the rising tide at Southampton to come to his aid. He had to trust that the Crawley council would keep their eye against the new advancing tide. He would dismiss the appeal.

**beral interpretation**

**Inc v China Salvage Co, Ichow Branch**

in 27 of the Arbitration Act (which gives the court power to extend time for commencing action proceedings) should be a wide and liberal interpretation, the Court of Appeal said.

The word "claims" in section 27 of the Arbitration Act, 1950, was not confined to "causes of action". It applied to a claim for arbitration to fix the amount of the salvage award.

A court allowed an appeal by owners, Sino Incorporated, of *Ja*, from a decision of Mr Justice Shear that he had no jurisdiction to extend time for fixing arbitration regarding the amount of salvage in the case of *China Salvage Co, Ichow Branch*, People's Republic of China, and *Transpac S.A.* of Hongkong beyond 42 days from the date of arbitration of the security agreement clause 6 of Lloyd's salvage me-

**Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union v Times Newspapers Ltd and Others**

Before Mr Justice O'Connor

The hearing continued of three preliminary issues of law to be decided before the trial of an action for libel brought by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union against Times Newspapers Ltd in respect of two articles published in *The Times* on November 18, 1977, and alleged to be defamatory.

The three questions are:

(1) Can a trade union (not being a partnership body) commence an action in its own name for damages for defamation in relation to its reputation as a legal entity whether or not such entity is separate and distinct from its individual members?

(2) If the answer to question (1) is in the affirmative, is any such cause of action dependent upon proof of damage to the union's property or special damages for loss of members?

(3) Is such a union able to maintain an action for damages on behalf of each and every one of its members? In other words, can the union (without identifying any particular members or members) in impugning their several reputations as members of the union?

Mr Lester, resuming the argument for The Times defendants, said that in the light of the majority decision of the House of Lords in **Times v Bannister** (1955) AC 104 the correct basis for the decision in **National Union of General and Municipal Workers v Gilligan** (1945) 2 All ER 353 was no longer that a

trade union was a legal entity with judicial personality but that by virtue of the Trade Union Acts trade unions were to be regarded as near-corporations or quasi-corporations and able to sue in defamation on their behalf.

In the **Bonsor** case Lord Justice Denning was right in explaining that a libel was in its very nature a wrong to the person and that regard to any irrelevant consideration that they came to the United Kingdom from Italy, and that there was no finding on general principles to justify a finding that on leaving the applicants deliberately did or failed to do anything in consequence which they caused to occupy accommodation available which it would have been within the Act imposed on it. But in **Thornton v Kirklees MBC** (1977) 2 QB 653 the Court of Appeal held that if the council failed to provide accommodation as required by section 3(4) an applicant could be satisfied as failing the families: "You left Italy and came to Crawley, where we are absolutely crowded out. You ought not to have come here unless you had somewhere else to go." The court accepted the argument that they had a relative priority over the applicants.

On the subsidiary point his Lordship considered the period contemplated by section 4(3) began when the local authority's adverse decision on intentional homelessness was communicated to the applicants and that the period allowed was so short that no reasonable authority could have thought it sufficient to satisfy the sections' requirements. It had been agreed that the time had elapsed during which the applicants had again been provided with accommodation so that it could not now be said it did not afford the reasonable opportunity contemplated by section 4(3).

Mr David Cairns gave a concluding judgment.

Solicitors: Bates, Wells, Brathwaite; Sharpe, Pritchard & Co for Mr A. S. Challoner, Crawley.

The applicants said that the code of guidance required the authority to "satisfy" or "not satisfy" so in effect must have been the law as far as the **ASEF** (1972) 2 QB 433 and other cases and endorsed in the context of the Act by the Lord Chief Justice in **R v Bristol City Council, Ex parte Brown** (1979) 3 All ER 344.

The applicants said that the council had observed the Code of Guidance prepared by the Department of Environment and Social Security and the Welsh Office. Paragraph 2.18 of the code said: "In assessing whether a person has become homeless: consider the most immediate cause of that homelessness rather than events that may have taken place previously. It would be inappropriate to treat as intentionally homeless a person who gave up accommodation to move to another town or find a new job after a few months that they could no longer continue to accommodate him."

If that paragraph were to be treated as a binding statement, the council ought not to have looked at the families' position when they left Italy but at their position when they arrived, or released, in England three days earlier. That the council did not do.

But his Lordship was quite clear that the code should not be regarded as a binding statement. The council had to have regard to section 12, but having done so they could depart from it if they thought fit. The present were cases where they were perfectly entitled to depart from it.

As to the grant of an interlocutory injunction, the present cases were not the same as **American Cyanamide** (1975) AC 356 because the applicants could give no reasonable explanation for taking damages. No injunction should be granted against the council unless a prima facie case was made out that the finding of "intentionally homeless" was incorrect. It should not be granted unless it was shown where, on an application for judicial review, certiorari would be granted to quash the decision and mandamus issued to command them to consider the case afresh.

Stephen Brown in **Flicker v Moles Valley District Council** (unreported, October 29, 1979) when he granted an interlocutory injunction ordering the council to make a decision on permanent accommodation for the German dweller was erroneous.

On the point that the council had allowed the families only four days to leave the guest houses and that was too short a time to make a decision, his Lordship thought regard could be had to the five or six weeks they had already been in the guest houses and the four or five more weeks during the present proceedings intended to find other accommodation.

Crawley council had Gatwick airport in their area. If any family from the Common Market could fly into Gatwick, stay a month or two, with reference to the point that they were "intentionally homeless" it would be a more serious matter for the "overcrowded" borough. They should be able to do better than King Canute. He had the rising tide at Southampton to come to his aid. He had to trust that the Crawley council would keep their eye against the new advancing tide. He would dismiss the appeal.

**Capacity of a trade union to protect its members**

words in section 2(1) "shall not be, or be treated as if it were, a body corporate" and not "and unless less than that a trade union was not to be treated as, and was not, a corporation in the full sense of such a corporation might be established by grant from the Crown or by incorporation under the Companies Act 1948.

Then the draftsmen went on to confer on such an organization of workers a whole series of incidents which were only consistent with the intention to give the organization quasi-corporate status, a personality in law and, for the purpose of the present provision, a sufficient reputation which for the discharge of its functions, the organization would need to protect.

Sub-sections (a) to (e) indicated that the organization would not be a corporation in the full sense nor be entitled to sue in its own name in the full sense, but nonetheless would enjoy those incidents which the courts historically had found to be characteristic of quasi-corporations.

Further, in the Act, the presumption in favour of incorporation could not at the same time refer to an unincorporated body. It was also submitted that there was no presumption, particularly in the case of an organization, that it had corporate personality.

At the time when the 1974 Act was enacted it was well known that there existed in relevant circles that there existed corporations, particularly unincorporated associations, that any golden rule of reciprocity was intended.

At the time when the 1974 Act was enacted it was well known that there existed in relevant circles that there existed corporations, ordinary human beings and bodies which were not corporations but had some of their attributes and could sue in their own names and which as a result of such capacity enjoyed a reputation and therefore to be entitled to protect

such reputation. The material left to be opened by the plain-

tiffs and dealt with by the defendant on reply.

Mr Kempter for the plaintiff said that since 1913 it was generally accepted that a trade union could sue for damage to its reputation, and if the defendants' point on the effect of the provisions of section 2 of the 1974 Act was upheld it would change a practice, which was widespread and an assumption that had long been held.

On **Bonsor** counsel submitted that there was a balance in the House of Lords in favour of the view that a trade union was, or was at the time, a legal entity, but did not agree that it was to be distinguished from the membership as a whole or not. If it was to be regarded as a legal entity in law as it was regarded in fact, then it had sufficient personality in law and, for the purpose of the present provision, a sufficient reputation which for the discharge of its functions, the organization would need to protect.

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It's got to be Gordon's

Ronald Butt

# The army that must be cut

To socialists and collectivists, all political and bureaucratic pressures that the present Government has achieved no more so far than curtailing future spending plans, leaving public spending as large a part of the national product as it was before. The consequence is the 17 per cent minimum lending rate, and the danger of increased taxation.

Even so, every cut has caused cries of outrage, whether it is on basic social services or bureaucratic activity.

All such protests are, of course, backed by a Labour Party whose leaders when in power may be forced by the facts of life to cut public spending, but whose free-range instincts in opposition are that every cut must be wrong. The truth is that public spending is often wasteful or unnecessary; something that they cannot bring themselves to face. So Labour leaders, apart from having recourse to higher rates, even dare to discredit the idea of public spending cuts by imposing them on such genuine welfare services as old people's homes rather than cut their own bureaucracy, or instead of abolishing such officials as the Controller of Recreation, the Kafkaesque title of an official in a London borough who organizes pantomimes and concerts.

What, then, is to be done? In climate of deepening recession, it is out of the question to hope to shift any significant part of vital social services from the public to the private sector. That requires a background of poverty. Nor is it morally right to reduce essential features of these services, which affect the most vulnerable people. What is important is to restrict spending to essentials, which means, first of all, cutting down bureaucracy, whose

essential waste is a principal reason for preferring spending to be done wherever possible by the individual rather than the state.

In an important speech on management in Whitehall, Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, talked the other day about the dangerous practice which assumes that policy is for politicians and administration for civil servants. He argued that politicians now must have a responsibility in our ever-growing public sector, for deciding what jobs should be done and how, particularly in the absence of the financial disciplines that operate in the private sector.

General targets for reducing spending are not, he suggested, the right way since there are no rational means for determining whether the target cut should be 5 or 15 per cent, and in any case, targets are usually much affected by special pleading. Targets were no substitute for looking at detail. Too often things are done simply because they have been done for a long time. "There is no known way by which this accumulated activity is subject to regular detailed questioning by ministers. The systems to do so don't exist."

Mr Heseltine himself has been practising what he preaches. Without remonstrance but with lighter heart, and through detailed investigation of jobs and functions, he has achieved a saving of 4 per cent in his own department, largely by involving ministers, self in detail usually left to the bureaucrats. He has tried to correct the tendency of human beings to pro-

liferate paperwork and empire-building. In the private sector, this is constrained by responsible management and by the need to budget, but in the public sector the cost of a particular activity is something for which nobody has specific responsibility—unless the minister takes it.

The creeping increase in bureaucracy continues with remarkable consistency.

In part, of course, we can blame the political attitudes of Labour councillors, but the problem goes deeper. It is probably too much to expect of part-time local councillors a proper control of the proliferating bureaucracies. A system of local "Cabinet" government (though it has been persistently resisted by all previous enquiries) may be the answer here. But what of the central bureaucracy? Mr Heseltine makes it his business to know who and how many people do what, and why, but this is an individual exercise. What comes after him if his successor is not inclined to do likewise?

Here surely is a function that could be performed by a parliamentary committee. I am a sceptic about the fashion for parliamentary committees to scrutinise the policy activities of Whitehall, but I suspect that monitoring the function of bureaucracies and budgets of Whitehall departments is precisely the sort of function that a parliamentary committee (perhaps, to avoid overburdening the Commons, with non-ministerial members of both Houses) could most effectively perform. It would bring accountability where it is most needed. The Government could at least think about it.

Bernard Levin on the unfailing courage of an extraordinary woman

## Hell can be just speaking to a friend

Two women are about to go to prison in South Africa for talking to a third. Since not even in South Africa is talking a crime per se, the statement requires some amplification; some, but also not much, for by now the iniquities of the "banning" system practised by that beautiful and wicked land are familiar here, not least to regular readers of this column. But its application in the particular case I want to write about today, and the special iniquity of that application, will be less well known.

The victim is Winnie Mandela, wife of Nelson Mandela, who is serving a life sentence on Robben Island, where a life sentence means exactly that: there is no system of release or remission. (Mandela was originally sentenced on charges relating to sabotage and the recruitment of persons for guerrilla warfare; this news paper, in reporting the news, used the term "banning"; this refers to a trial which took place along the lines of 1956, referred to as "ganged beyond endurance" and decided editorially that "the verdict of history will be that the ultimate guile party in the government-in-power, and that already is the verdict of world opinion".)

Mrs Mandela has been subjected to a campaign of harassment that is exceptional even by South African standards.

*(This aim.) She was first banned in 1963, when Nelson Mandela was on trial. The banning order confined her to Johannesburg, prohibited from attending meetings or even social gatherings, and made illegal any contact with other banned persons except with special permission.*

This, however, allowed her to continue in her employment as a social worker, even though under very great difficulty. So in 1963, not long after Nelson Mandela had been sentenced to life imprisonment, the banning order was intensified; she was now restricted to a particular area of Soweto, and was forbidden to enter even educational or judicial premises. She had to give up her job and take one as a cleaner-woman.

The South African authorities then feared that she might publish the truth about their persecution of her, so the following year (1966) the banning order was further strengthened, this time to make it illegal for her to publish anything at all. And in 1967 she was imprisoned for 14 months for breaking the banning order; she had fallen foul of the regulations on a visit to her husband on Robben Island.

This was still not enough to break her spirit, or compel her to abandon her attempts to strengthen and sustain her husband. So in 1968 she was arrested again, and this time it would be a great help towards

ill-interrogated without pause for five consecutive days and nights, by relays of interrogators. (This is the technique known as "the conveyor", which was invented by Stalin's torturers and taken over in its entirety by their South African equivalents. The team applying it to Mrs Mandela was under the direction of Major Swanepoel, then South Africa's most notorious torturer.)

Mrs Mandela, along with all her co-defendants, was acquitted by a court, as a matter of fact, the charges being withdrawn the first time and new ones substituted more or less at random. By now it was September 1970, and she had then spent some 16 months in solitary confinement. After the acquittal, she was banned again, being confined once more to a specific area of Soweto. When this new banning order entered in 1975 no new one was at first imposed, but Mrs Mandela was able to travel the country, and speak freely to other people, for the first time in 12 years. It did not last; after the Soweto riots in 1976 she was arrested, held for five months without trial, and released into the strictest banning yet—house arrest.

Still her spirit was unbroken; so the government decided on a further refinement of their torture. She was abruptly banned to a "location" in Brandfort, a remote Afrikaner village in a barren area of the Orange Free State, an area with which she has no connections. She is, of course, banned there; she is also confined to her home every evening, throughout every week, and on all public holidays. Normally, she may not attend any gathering; naturally, she may not publish anything nor

may anything she says be published.

And now we come to the latest twist of South Africa's knife. Two women, Jackie Bowman and Ilona Kleinischmidt, visited Mrs Mandela, having driven the 500 miles from Johannesburg. It had been decided to prosecute her again for breaking her banning order, and the women were invited to give evidence against her. They naturally refused, and were themselves charged, and sentenced to four months and three months imprisonment, respectively. They appealed, and the appeal was dismissed; they must therefore serve their sentences, and were due to start doing so today if there has been no postponement.

Throughout the years of her suffering, Mrs Mandela has experienced continuous interference with her letters; in this, of course, she is not unique among the victims of South Africa's rulers, but she seems to be subjected to a particularly vicious form of it. Some letters are allowed through, some have passages deleted, some are simply stolen before reaching her. This means that she is unable to carry on any normal correspondence, since any meaningful exchange of letters depends on continuity. The authorities have also made it extremely difficult for her to be reached by telephone; she herself has no telephone, of course, but there is a call-box at which she can make arrangements with her friends so that they can call her there. But callers now find that either there is no answer, or that the telephone is picked up and immediately put down.

Nonetheless Winnie Mandela,

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The experience is unforgettable. Just remember the name.



Will the Human Factor pay off?

Actors are rarely indifferent to the success of a film in which they have appeared, but the cast of the film of Graham Greene's *The Human Factor* are watching its fortunes with more than normal nervousness: their pay depends on its box office performance.

Equity, the actors' union, said

many of the cast, including Sean Connery and Robert Morley, had not been paid for work on the film: they were owed £150,000 out of total debts of £1m left by the production.

The *Human Factor* was made in Britain by Otto Preminger. Unfortunately, said Equity, all Preminger's backers let him down, and the bills went unpaid.

Court action by the union stopped the finished film from leaving the country, but that did not ensure any money would be forthcoming, and the union did not want to damage the film's chances—all too often legal action over a film prevents it being seen at all, and nobody benefiting.

Equity eventually allowed the release of the film—in return for an agreement under which the entire revenue from its showings will be sent to pay creditors in Britain. The union said: "This agreement is written in such a way that Otto Preminger could actually be sent to prison by either the English or New York courts, if it is broken."

The film is now in the

United States, where showings are planned this month—it can qualify as a contender for the next Academy Awards. It will probably be seen in Britain early next year.

Judging by the cast of the book, the actors should be equally popular. Penelope Keith said they had already sold 200,000 copies of the paperback in Britain, which were well ahead of anything they had done previously with Greene's novels. They said it was one of the fiction best-sellers of the year.

The Belfast playwright Stewart Parker, whose *I'm a Dreamer*, won the 1979 Evening Standard Memorial Prize, has a new black comedy on *Radio Three* next Sunday. It is *The Kamikaze Ground Staff Reunion Dinner* (well, it would hardly come complete with a portcullis). Marvyn

Lord, *Brookhaven's* unheralded victim in the bomb explosion which killed his father-in-law, Lord Mountbatten, has not acted and holds in the latest *Christie* film he is jointly producing for EMI. The *Minotaur*, with Angela Lansbury, is Marvyn's first shooting in Britain next summer. A new *Bernard Patrix* film, *Apparition*, with Marvyn in the lead, is also in preparation.

Escaping the Italian cuts

Cuts in the arts are not confined to this country, as the British opera group Musica Nota Christie discovered in July earlier this year. Its association with the ruined municipality of Battagno was threatened when the municipal authorities for the Gresso area announced the ending of its grant.

Adam Pollock, the designer who founded the festival, said they were really a pawn in a local political struggle. But the festival has won international supporters among people with summer villas in the area, and after pressure from such notables as Sir Georg Solti and the novelist

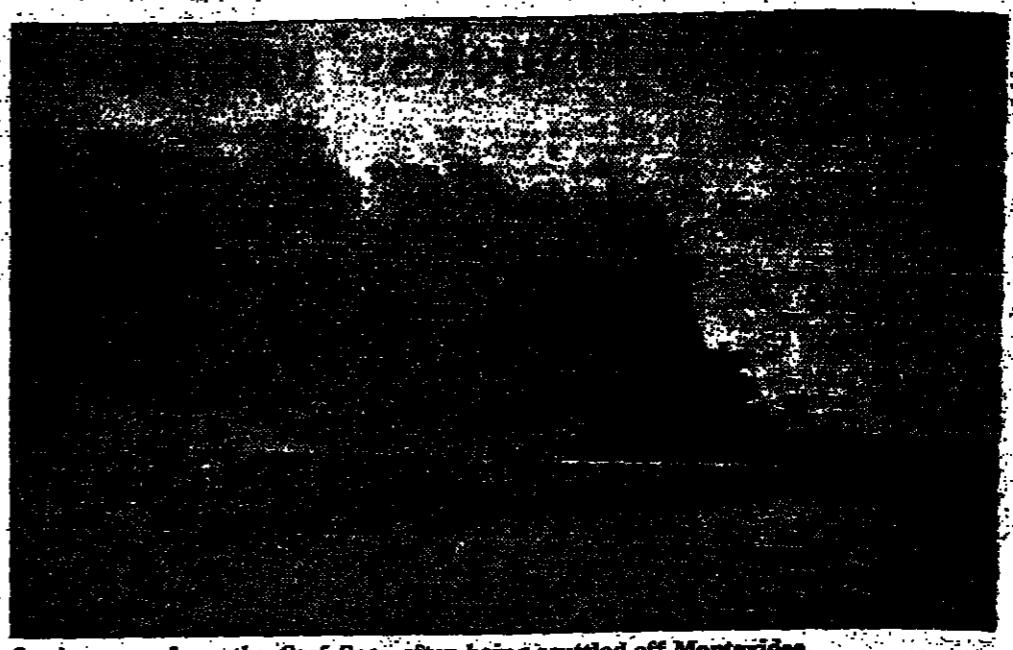
Lord, Calvino and Alberto Moravia, the cuts were restored. Back in Britain, the group is presenting a Haydn opera at the Round House on Saturday: the work is *Lo Scudiero* but in a different guise from normal. The production is being directed by London Weekend Television's South Bank Show, who commissioned a new translation which completely updates the work. So on Saturday they will be presenting Haydn's *Love and the Ice Cream Vendor*.

More up-dating takes place next week at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, where the Singers' Company is presenting its 1976 version of the *Burlesca di Scena*. Modern English dialogue has replaced the original, and it is set in a Spanish hotel, a sort of *Party Central*. The production, which comes complete with a portcullis, is Marvyn's.

Open Space keeps going

More houses in development plans, Charles Marowitz's Open Space theatre is becoming a troupe of wandering players. Sir Georg Solti and the novelist

After a pitched battle in the Atlantic, Germany's best known battleship was doomed



Smoke pours from the Graf Spee after being scuttled off Montevideo.

## How the Graf Spee was scuttled by the Navy's clever tricks

In a front page headline, *The Times* of December 13, 1939, told the world of the first British naval victory of the last war: "Admiral Graf Spee scuttled! An end without a fight—Burning ship goes down off Montevideo. British ships stand by as bombs explode."

It was an ignominious end to the best-known of the German pocket battleships built under the terms of the Anglo-German Naval Treaty of 1935. Its commander, Captain Hans Langsdorff, had been forced to scuttle the through a combination of British sea power and clever deception.

By a raft of false messages and Admiralty statements about ship movements, he and the German High Command had been led to believe that capital ships awaited him at the mouth of the River Plate.

In fact, the waiting British cruiser force was of much the same gun-power as that which he engaged in a running fight on December 13, and which forced him to run for the shelter of a neutral harbour. After the humiliation of having a battleship, the Royal Oak, sunk within the harbour defences at Scapa Flow by a German U-boat two months earlier, the destruction of the Graf Spee restored confidence in British naval power.

Instead, Captain Langsdorff turned for Montevideo for repairs with his battle ensign flying, the ship left the dock under its own power and for the roads. Three miles from shore, he stopped. At 20.54, deserted ship blew up with tremendous explosion became a flaming wreck.

Four days later, Capt Langsdorff wrapped himself in the flag of the German Imperial Navy and shot himself. In farewell note, he wrote: "I could learn pillars which gave me the necessary morale and the strength to maintain one's dignity in the blistering inferno of racial hatred. I have tried the best to communicate with all such friends—when you didn't hear from me, you must always know it was because of a situation which is not of my making. I am unable to thank you for making it possible for me to know I belong to a family of mankind and that I am convinced more than ever before that one day my husband and I and my people will express this gratitude in a befitting manner. Have a happy Christmas and know that in turn I shall one day also attach some significance to Christmas because you made it possible for me to think there is reality in life and that such reality will come to the masses of my people. Your solidarity means so much to me. Yours in the brotherhood of man and love to each member of your family. Yours always,

Capo Langsdorff, the Graf Spee's officer of the old school who persisted in giving the traditional imperial navy salute rather than the Nazi one. Sent to hunt him down, the RN South American division was commanded by Commodore Henry Harwood.

After the Graf Spee had been reported back in the Atlantic again, he rightly surmised that it would make for the busy shipping lanes off the Plate estuary. On December 13, 1939, flying his pennant in the light cruiser, Ajax (Capt C. H. E. Woodhouse), with the cruiser Achilles (Capt W. E. Woodhouse) of the Royal New Zealand Navy and the Exeter (Capt F. S. Bell), in company, he intercepted his quarry.

The gun battle, which followed, is one of the epics of naval warfare. It lasted from early morning until nightfall, the first exchange being the most dramatic. Exeter hit heavily damaged, but con-

tinued to fight. The weather grows worse, machinery collapses and the group and the action rattle to the Middle Ages.

Sailors are still under the work's ending thought it would finish or road to Paris; the city would prove an unassisted. Meanwhile, the eyes of the world turned to the barb. Press and radio coverage increased. Every movement on board Graf Spee was monitored by the RN. British sailors, freed at last, told their stories. Berlin claimed a "victory" and explained that Graf Spee had

George C.

the weather grows worse, machinery collapses and the group and the action rattle to the Middle Ages.

Sailors are still under the work's ending thought it would finish or road to Paris; the city would prove an unassisted.

A Leviathan revived

What could be literally biggest musical event is scheduled for the Albert Hall, May, when the BBC mounting *Hannibal* Gothic Symphony.

The BBC producer, Robert Simpson, said he unsure exactly how many formers would be involved he thought it would be 850, including the Royal Opera House and the BBC offered him a joint commission for a new opera which will be seen in Finland in 1984 and in London the following year.

After his previous operas, largely concerned with Finnish peasant his new work, *The King Goes to France*, will be quite a contrast, akin to silence fiction, which is performed appropriate considerations in all respects. It premiers in 1984. It will be set in Britain, although the choice of country is fortuitous: Sallinen's decision on the subject long before Covent Garden signed him up.

In the opera a future Britain is enveloped by a new ice age. The king and the court descend to France following the route of the English armies in the Hundred Years War—but as

Martin Hucks





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## PARLIAMENT SHOULD FIGHT

The question of how big a role could be played by a directly elected European Parliament has been a heady one very quickly. A matter of months after summer's elections. Not surprisingly, it has taken the form of a conflict between the Parliament and the Council of Ministers, representing the nine member governments, over priorities in next year's Community budget. The Parliament is trying to make a small, largely symbolic cut in spending on the common agricultural policy, and increase spending in other areas, such as regional development, job creation, scientific research and energy projects. The Council has rejected the Parliament's proposals and, Community rules being what they are, the Parliament now has the choice of either accepting or rejecting the draft budget sent to it by the Council. Rejection would be a serious step, because it could cause a great deal of disruption of Community activities. But many members of the European Parliament are concerned that the importance of the issues at stake—the need to cut agricultural spending, and the need for real control by a directly elected Parliament—could easily be overlooked.

We believe that they are right. There is no question that total control of the budget is a very useful weapon which would pose difficulties in many different areas. But it is the only way that the Parliament has in its power to influence the outcome of this sort of thing. If they are dissatisfied by the contrary moves made at yesterday's meeting of the Council, they would not hesitate to use it. The members of the European Parliament were elected to serve their

constituents' interests, and for the majority of them it makes no sense at all to devote about three-quarters of the budget to the common agricultural policy, wasteful and ineffective as it is. Over the years, many attempts have been made to bring it under control. But the Council of Ministers has so far failed to achieve this largely because of the pressures brought to bear on the national governments by farming interests. So now the European Parliament, in which consumers have greater influence than agricultural producers, should add weight to the pressures for reform.

For Britain the issue is complicated by the separate question of how to get satisfaction from its partners on its own net budget contributions, still unresolved after the Dublin summit. It is possible that if a crisis develops over the Parliament's rejection of the budget, this will distract governments' attention from Britain's demand. It could take months to get a new budget agreed, and during that time the Community will be operating with makeshift arrangements, many of them tried in the past. But this is a short-term consideration, while the long-term interest of Britain must be to support a move that is designed to get a more rational pattern of spending in the Community budget. For this reason we think that Britain was misguided in deciding not to vote with Italy and the Netherlands in favour of the amendments made to the draft budget by the Parliament, which could have ensured their adoption.

More fundamentally, it must be right to encourage the development of the European Parliament into a more effective influence in Community affairs. The idea is that the European Parliament could be a serious step, because it could cause a great deal of disruption of Community activities. But it is the only way that the Parliament has in its power to influence the outcome of this sort of thing. If they are dissatisfied by the contrary moves made at yesterday's meeting of the Council, they would not hesitate to use it. The members of the European Parliament were elected to serve their

## EXCLUSION WITHOUT REASON IS UNJUST

City of London is the only authority in England and Wales still to retain aldermen. One of the reasons given at the time for allowing the City, that was once a democratic entity, to remain in the rest of the country before they were abolished, was that its aldermen were appointed by the political party in control of the council. In July last, a by-election was held in the City of London's wards. Residents were entitled to vote in favour of Mr Donald Silk, a local councillor.

The City's Court of Aldermen has indeed an ancient and honourable tradition in the City of London. That should not, however, entitle it to behave in this autocratic and feudal manner, and to dispense with the basic principles of fairness and justice. The Court failed to put forward any reasonable grounds for considering Mr Silk to be not a fit and suitable person for membership. He was not told at the time why he had been rejected, nor was the Divisional Court given any reason for his unsuitability. He was at no stage given the opportunity to respond to any criticism against him, which

might have been relevant in the Court's decision not to admit him.

Mr Silk is a divorced man, and that seems to have been mentioned informally as a ground for rejection. That could come nowhere near disqualifying him from being an alderman. The Court would have been entitled to have excluded him on the grounds that, for instance, he had been guilty of business malpractices which, although not criminal, did not meet the high standards demanded of an alderman and prospective Lord Mayor of London. But nothing of that nature has been even remotely hinted at. The conclusion to be drawn is that the Court of Aldermen wished not to have Mr Silk because, simply, its members did not like him. That is not a good enough reason to overturn an election. The Court has abused its powers, and shown a lack of the dignity and fairness expected of such a respected institution.

## DESIRABLE BUT UNLIKELY TO BE BUILT

In spite of Mr St John-Stevens's words of goodwill yesterday, the Government itself, committed as it is to the control of public spending, cannot be expected to regard the plan with very much warmth: the time is scarcely ripe. It never is; it has not been ripe, in fact, for 25 years, the period during which proposals of this kind have been under consideration. The building is likely to cost £120m—a figure which has to be compared not only with the £5,400,000 which was set (unrealistically, even then), as the price ceiling in the competition of 1971, but also with the likely cost of such a project in the 1990s. Sooner or later, regardless of ripeness, some government must take the plunge and set about providing its legislators with tolerable facilities for their work.

In those 25 years we have been spared a number of obtuse and monolithic projects, of which the most bizarre was one for a block wrapped round Westminster Hall, obliterating the best-known view of Parliament. The new scheme is a relatively modest and ingenuous one. Some of the buildings on the site are well worth preserving, and almost all of these are incorporated either as

facades or as a whole in the new scheme. The block is no greater in apparent bulk than the buildings it replaces, though much roomier.

Sir Hugh Casson, who has designed it, together with Mr David Ramsey, is perhaps best known for the Elephant House at the London Zoo, a brilliant conception with, it is often remarked, an uncanny affinity with the animals it houses. The Bridge Street building, where the actual state of affairs is artfully but incompletely concealed behind a variety of antique facades, may be thought to have a similar quality, though it does not have the same brilliance. That is not necessarily a fault in its sensitive context (Sir Hugh is known to hold the view that dullness in architecture is "an underrated virtue"). The

design is rather cast into the shade by the imperial pomp of the Treasury Building in the one direction and the polychrome eclecticism of the former Scotland Yard building in the other—to say nothing of Barry's masterpiece across the road—but it would not disgrace them, and it is perhaps as good as we can expect in the current age of architecture.

## cancelled meeting

*'the Provost of the City of London Polytechnic'*

I should like to correct the impression which appears to have arisen from a misunderstanding that cancelling of the meeting at Sir Keith Joseph was to speak to his polytechnic last Thursday (December 6) was anything to do with Sir Keith himself or the views he might have been putting forward.

The senior officer of the polytechnic who cancelled the meeting was the officer ultimately responsible for conforming with the Health and Safety at Work Act and the decision because of the safety of holding a meeting in a large number in the building he believed to have been tampered with in preparation for occupation by students on an entirely separate issue, that of over-students' fees. The issue of freedom of speech was not involved.

Sir Keith Joseph has been a welcome visitor to the City of London

Polytechnic on a number of occasions and his meetings have been well attended and have given rise to lively and constructive debate. I look forward to rearranging, at an early date, the meeting that was to be held by the Conservative Students' Alliance.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR SUDDABY,  
The Provost,  
City of London Polytechnic,  
17-19 Houndsditch, EC3

## Patients and pickets

From Dr J. M. Walker  
Sir, Surely the troubles to which Lord Onslow refers in today's issue (December 7) are due to the actions taken by the unions. They are quick to discipline and even expel members who work when they are told to strike, but slow to take any action against members who strike when they are told to work.

Yours truly,

J. M. WALKER,  
Worcester College, Oxford

Prayer Book language

From the General Secretary of the Church Union  
Sir, Canon George Austin (letter, December 6) cannot have it both ways. He cannot on the one hand claim that Catholics within the Church of England only "could" and never actually "would" use the new rite, and then on the other hand be up-set when the Church Union, the leading Catholic body within the Church of England, actually uses the rite (in a non-parochial service held in an unconsecrated building), within 24 hours of General Synod having authorized it. The rite used that day was entirely within the bounds of the new service using the liberty given by the rubrics and notes contained within it, and minor variations allowable under Canon 85(1).

Yours faithfully,

PETER GELDARD,  
General Secretary,  
Church Union,  
7 Tofton Street, SW1

December 6.

## Loyalty of Rhodesia Civil servants

From Mr B. J. Lennox

Sir, I refer to your leading article of December 6 and take exception to the implications against the civil service in Southern Rhodesia, which has a proud reputation of loyalty serving the government of the day. There is no doubt that the governments of Sir Godfrey Huggins, Field Todd and Sir Edgar Whitehead were all served as loyally as those of Winston Churchill, Ian Smith and Bishop Muzorewa.

At the unilateral declaration of independence in November, 1965, the governor, Sir Humphrey Gibbs, instructed civil servants to stay at their posts and this was endorsed in the House of Commons by the then Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson.

On the declaration of independence in March, 1970, the then Foreign Secretary, in answer to a question in the House, stated that the former Governor's injunction had lapsed.

Our legal advisers tell me that a fundamental question, such as whether given instructions, such as the Governor's, can be deemed to have lapsed without consultation between the parties and the offer and acceptance of reasonable alternatives. No consultation ever took place, nor were any reasonable alternatives offered to civil servants.

The executive of this association believes the Governor's injunction to be still binding. Our members will therefore serve Lord Soames as loyally as they have served any other head of government.

Turning to your other allegation, I can assure you that, in all the negotiations on the security of pensions I have undertaken on behalf of this association with both ministers and civil servants in Britain, hatred and contempt have been noticeable by their absence on both sides.

At its sixtieth annual conference in September, 1978, this association unanimously passed a resolution that its members wished to continue to serve any government which was elected to power as well as they had done in the previous 60 years. This position still prevails, both during the Governor's rule and regardless who comes to power in the forthcoming elections.

We do, however, hope that, in recognition of our efforts, her Majesty's Government will come to an agreement with the new government under the Overseas Pensions Act, 1973, in order to safeguard our pensions.

Yours faithfully,  
B. J. LENNOX,  
President,  
Public Services Association,  
Salisbury,  
Southern Rhodesia.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Smoking in public places

From Professor Charles Fletcher

Sir, Mr Bernard Levin's article about bans on smoking (December 11) is not only full of gratuitous offence, but also with deception. Smoking is now a minority habit. Some 41 per cent of the whole population of the UK smoke and only 30 per cent of the professional classes. Non-smokers are so offensive to the non-smoking majority that something had to be done to control the behaviour. This is no doubt why the BBA instigated the debate on a "ban on smoking in public places", in which both Mr Levin and I took part and to which he refers in his article. He accuses me of fanaticism in it, so let me describe what actually happened.

Clement Freud, Lord Soper and I had prepared a reasoned approach to a ban on smoking in public places, but three minutes before the debate started Mr Levin insisted on making it totalitarian. For the sake of the programme we agreed. A few minutes later, Miss Stassino-poulou asked me how a total ban on smoking could be enforced. I had to reply that it must be by fines and, of course if these fines were not paid imprisonment would be the ultimate sanction for contempt of court.

The fanaticism of which Mr Levin accuses me was due solely to his own insistence that his side could only win the debate by making it ridiculous. Despite this, half of the audience voted in favour of this extreme motion. So lofty is Mr Levin after his "insight training" about which he wrote recently, that he didn't notice this remarkable demonstration of how many people can now support stricter control of smoking. This fact, together with the vast numbers of people who kill themselves by smoking (at least 30,000 every year in the age of 65), seems to be beneath Mr Levin's serious consideration.

If the tobacco manufacturers were to address themselves to gradually reducing sales of their dangerous products, as every pharmaceutical manufacturer does, it gives hope to half of all smokers desperately wanting help in stopping smoking. Mr Levin's libertarian approach might suffice. As it is, doctors are forced as they have been in many aspects of preventive medicine in the past to seek control by legislation.

This is a serious problem, Sir, and one that deserves more thoughtful debate in your columns than Mr Levin's schoolboy abuse and his retreat from honest discussion in public debate.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES FLETCHER,  
20 Drayton Gardens, SW10.

From the Secretary of State for Social Services

Sir, Bernard Levin, whom I much enjoy reading, has slipped (December 11).

No one in my Department, least of all myself, has made any approach whatever to Buckingham Palace about the Royal Warrant for cigarettes used in the Royal Household. I would regard it as a great experience to do any such thing.

Yours etc,  
PATRICK JENKIN,  
Department of Health and Social Security,  
Alexander Fleming House,  
Elephant and Castle, SE1.

From Mr Maxwell Bruce, QC

Sir, Regarding Mr Levin's call for liberty on behalf of smokers (December 11), perhaps the Government health warning should be reworded to state, simply and truthfully, contains permitted carcinogens.

Yours sincerely,  
E. A. LEEF,  
14 Salisbury Court,  
Salisbury Avenue, N3.  
December 11.

## Answering Vatican charges

From Dr Harry V. Stopes-Roe

Sir, It may seem odd for a Humanist to come to the defence of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church, even if to a limited degree only. But perhaps, being an outsider, I see the same.

The processes of critical enquiry are necessarily different where Divine revelation is available. This is particularly true where revelation is not merely a thing of the past but of God supports those responsible for it.

One must consider human responsibility in this context. Human understanding without Grace is frail; Grace is not a shackles for theological thought, but its most pure power. Further, religious leaders bear a critical responsibility for right doctrine where the eternal souls of people can depend, in part, on the beliefs they hold.

The Congregation believes itself to stand in this exposed position, with the power, the support, and the care of the state, which I have indicated.

Yours faithfully,  
HARRY V. STOPES-ROE,  
Chairman,  
British Humanist Association,  
13 Prince of Wales Terrace, W8.  
December 6.

## Trees for kingfishers

From the Chairman of the Southern Water Authority

Sir, Your correspondent, Alison Ross, in your issue (November 24) made the statement that "modern river management demands treeless banks" and asked that water authorities should provide alternative accommodation for kingfishers in the form of short posts on river banks.

May I correct this statement with regard to river management and inform you that this authority is always ready to consider suggestions in the interests of nature conservation?

The authority has recently approved a policy for the conservation of mature deciduous trees which has been discussed with nature conservation bodies, the Nature Conservancy Council, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and County Naturalists Trusts, with whom we have arrangements for liaison and regular discussion on its implementation and other matters of mutual concern. Generally, trees will be retained wherever possible so that, except on the widest rivers, the

smokers. For example, a report by two former Surgeons General of the United States (Dr Luther L. Terry and Jesse L. Steinfeld) concludes that long term exposure "can cause disease and discomfort in healthy non-smokers". Another study has indicated that non-smokers exposed to smoke for a long period suffer a reduction of lung capacity almost identical to that suffered by light smokers. Many non-smokers do not want to be exposed to smoke. Furthermore, many people are allergic to smoke and suffer unpleasant reactions.

What seems to be at issue is not the smokers' right to smoke—no believer in a free society would deny it—but the non-smoker's right to breathe unsmoke-polluted air in places in which he cannot avoid being. Surely no liberally minded person would regard enforcement of the law as being any more of an encroachment upon a person's liberty than the denial of the right to smoke in the vicinity of a petrol pump.

I would hope that the eloquence and force of Mr Levin's views might perhaps be tempered by consideration that the scientific premise on which they are based may not be sound, and that there is another side to the coin of absolute freedom. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,  
MAXWELL BRUCE,  
14 Pall Mall, SW1.

December 12.

From Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris

Sir, My colleagues and I in the Freedom Organization for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco and our members have read Bernard Levin's article in today's issue (December 11) with great interest. Although it would be wrong to infer that 10 million died of starvation, the number must have been very large. In this must be added the number who were deported and subjected to cruel hardships. There can be little doubt that, although the slump in the capitalist world was a tragedy, it was less terrible than the contemporary tragedy in Russia.

Everyone knows about the capitalist slump, but it seems probable that even today, few people in the West are aware that there was a famine in Russia. We have been reminded recently by the media that a serious attempt was made to inform us about the famine. It is all the more important that this should be done because agriculture—reorganized at this terrible cost in human suffering—has continued to be so weak a sector in the Soviet economy that imports of food for North America have been desperately needed in recent years in order to provide food for the Communist countries.

The economies of the West are once more in difficulty and it is crucially important to ensure that our defences are now sufficiently strong to prevent the current recession from leading down once more into deep depression. But Russia is also encountering serious difficulties and these are not confined to agriculture. This fact needs to be better known in the West if superficial ideological conclusions are not to be drawn once again.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER FOXLEY-NORRIS,  
Chairman, Forest,  
3 Bowdway, SW6.

December 10.

## Learning lessons of the thirties

From Professor Thomas Wilson

Sir, The year 1979 marks the fiftieth anniversary of two disasters. In the United States, the recession that started in 1929 was allowed to develop into a slump that engulfed the capitalist world. In the USSR, in December, 1939, Stalin launched his campaign to eliminate peasant proprietorship and establish collective farms. It was in 1933, when the slump was at its worst, that the USSR experienced a devastating famine as the direct consequence of Communist policy. Although the two events were unconnected, the coincidence in time was remarkable.

In the capitalist world the slump convinced many people of the need to reform the system by avoiding in the future the mismanagement of the monetary and fiscal system which had been the basic cause of the disaster. There were others who drew a different conclusion: capitalism must be overthrown and it was therefore right to pledge absolute loyalty to the one country where the revolution had already taken place. They were presumably quite unaware of what was happening at the same time in Russia.

The record of the famine has, of course, been concealed as much as possible by the Russian censorship, but the general course of events has long been known, though not widely known, in the West. Thus Professor Novak has observed that, according to the census statistics, "well over 10 million people had disappeared between 1929 and 1939". (*An Economic History of the USSR*, 180.) Although it would be wrong to infer that 10 million died of starvation, the number must have been very large. In this must be added the number who were



## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
December 12: Prince Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Mayor and Mayoress of The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Councillor and Mrs C. Kensington) at The Town Hall, Kensington.

Mrs Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Lord High Steward of St Marylebone had an audience of Her Majesty before the Council.

The Prince of Wales attended his visit to T.L. Welsh Industries Ltd, Nottingham today.

His Royal Highness later returned to London in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
Dec 12: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Mayor and Mayoress of The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Councillor and Mrs C. Kensington) at The Town Hall, Kensington.

Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**

**SJAMES'S PALACE**  
December 12: The Duchess of Kent, as President of the Royal College of Music, attended the Congregation of Awards in Manchester. Her Royal Highness subsequently attended a performance of *A Barbershop Estuary* by the Rev George Hales.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Melissa Pack, Amnon Curiel, Charlotte Currie, James Dartington, and Robert Myrons. Mr David Curiel was best man. A reception was held at Hampton Court Palace.

**Mr S. C. CARLING**  
and Miss H. A. SIMON

The marriage took place quietly at Beverley Minster on December 12 between Mr Simon Carling and Miss Hilary Simon.

**Reception**

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

The President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and Mrs Michael Young held a reception at St George's Square yesterday in honour of the Masters of the Farmers' Company, Mr R. W. Bulfield.

**Meeting**

Marshal of the RAF Sir Neil Cameron delivered the annual Fuller-Liddell Hart memorial lecture at Royal Ulster Air Workers' night at Ulster Hotel last night. The Master, Mr Mortimer Silverman, presided, assisted by the Wardens, Lord Chelmer and Mr Brian Pitchford. The health of the guests was proposed by Mr Roger Boissier and Mr W. L. Brooks replied.

**Cutlers' Company**

The Lord Mayor and Sheriff attended the Annual Boys' Head Feast at Cutlers' Hall last night. The Cutlers' Company toast was proposed by the Master, Alderman A. T. Trull, Mr C. A. Clarke, senior warden, the master of the Cutlers' and Mr Justice Brian E. T. Tindall, the principal guest, who also spoke. Among those present were:

Lady Liddell Hart, Mr Adrian Liddell Hart; General Sir Charles Smallwood; Sir Denis Smallwood; Sir Frederic Sowerby, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Norman Gold, Lieutenant-General Sir Robin Carnell.

**Birthdays today**

Lord Alexander of Pottershill, 74; Sir Terence Beckett, 56; the Hon. Sir George Bell, 70 (Salvation Army); Mr Lord Bullock, 65; Mr Glen Ryam Shaw, 75; Sir John Dean, 80; Professor W. H. McCrea, 75; Mr John Piper, 75; Sir John Pope-Hennessy, 65; General Sir Peter Whiteley, 55.

Mr Robert Maxwell is to be secretary to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London in succession to Mr G. A. Phelp who retires in August, 1980.

**Dinners**

Charterhouse

The Charterhouse Founder's Day dinner was held at Charterhouse

**HM Government**

The Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given in honour of the Hon Tony Benn, MP, at the Cavendish Hotel yesterday.

**Industrial Marketing Research Association**

The Industrial Marketing Research Association held its annual luncheon at the Dorchester hotel yesterday when the guest speaker was Lady Howe. Sir Roger Falk presided and the vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Diana Mills, chairman.

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The

## Lead in petrol: bad for cars, but far worse for children's health



Government will have to decide early next year whether to order oil companies move or drastically reduce, the lead content of petrol, as an urgent health measure.

The subject is emotive. Parental fears can aroused because there is strong evidence that even minute quantities of entering a child's system, quantities smaller than accepted "safe" limits, damage the brain. And, just as important, the belief that petrol-lead plays a major part in overall lead pollution seriously challenged by researchers, and with evidence that petrol-lead significantly, to overall pollution, governments are putting pressure on the industry to follow the example of the United States, West Germany and Japan, to move, or substantially reduce, the content of fuel.

Government is well aware of the mounting argument against lead removal, and costs many millions and would see national fuel consumption because lead petrol is burnt more quickly.

It is a Department of Transport's policy, with Government, oil companies, racing car members, and ways of reducing lead in exhausts. Costs of various options were between £7m and £10m.

In report, though, is as interesting as it sounds as for what it says. In writing about the great savings that accrue from reducing or removing

mining, transporting, smelting and refining of lead are expensive and energy procedures. So is the manufacture of the organic-lead anti-knock com-

pression is sometimes conveyed and is good for engines. But the

reverse is true. As research has shown, leaded fuel rods constrictors. The Civil Aviation Authority's notice No. 72 warns of the damaging effects of leaded petrol. Cars go faster, last longer and run more cheaply on unleaded fuel. Exhaust pipes do not have to be renewed so often and maintenance costs are lower.

During the 1970s, while other governments have taken firm action, British governments have been softening and apparently complacent. The official line has been that there is no proof that petrol-lead causes brain damage or is in any other way a health hazard. At the same time the Government has taken some precautions.

In 1972, on medical advice, it asked the oil companies to reduce the amount of lead in petrol so that, over the years, lead emissions from exhausts would not exceed the 1973 level.

It is a policy of containment. In 1971 the lead content of British petrol was 0.84 grams per litre. From 1981 the aim is to get it down to 0.40. But during the next two or three years the amount of lead getting into the atmosphere from exhausts is expected to exceed the 1971 level because petrol taxes are increasing.

German lead levels, incidentally, is 0.14 grams per litre.

Interest now is focused on the working party set up by the Department of Health and Social Security and chaired by Professor P. J. Lawrence, a member of London's clean air legislation. The working party is examining the effects of lead in oil, in its guise, and not just petrol-lead. So it is considering the effects of lead in oils, in food, in paint, in water pipes,

lead is a dangerous nerve poison that is disputed. But what has emerged in recent research is that lead, even in

tiny quantities, may interfere in subtle ways with the development of the central nervous system. Thus babies and young children are especially vulnerable.

A growing body of research shows a link between levels of lead in the body and impaired mental performance. Lead-affected children are unstable, hyperactive, unable to concentrate: they are educationally disabled. Recent research in England on a sample of "difficult" school children has pointed a finger of suspicion at lead.

Researchers rightly urge caution. They do not want laymen to jump to conclusions. They are not saying that high lead levels equal maladjustment, difficult children, or backwardness, as a matter of course. There are many variables and many factors that have to be considered, such as living conditions, housing, nutrition.

The DHSS working party will be making its report in January, and it is expected that a report will be published. Its assessment will no doubt be cautious.

Science cannot prove that petrol-lead causes brain damage in children. Research cannot establish cause and effect more than it could establish cause and effect between, say, smoking and cancer. What counts is consistent proof of link, the weight of the evidence.

Time and again lead is appearing in the equations when educational and emotional impairment in children are investigated.

If it is a matter of cost, well, it is very expensive to care for disturbed, difficult and damaged children.

The case against petrol-lead may be not proven; but it is the very strong element of doubt that may persuade the government to act, and to take the course of safety.

Lead is a dangerous nerve poison that is disputed. But what has emerged in recent research is that lead, even in

Trevor Fishlock

## Crisp and hot and pleasing

### The Times Cook



### Shona Crawford Poole

**QUEEN**  
classic glass. Distinctive, in and beautifully proportioned, fine rim subtle sophistication fully enhances both table and the pleasure of dining. By blown, British made just glasses are luxuriantly presented, making ideal Sherry or port, liqueurs, by and by a goblet. £1.25 for six.

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en.  
Easy to post.  
Exchangeable for a  
range of wines,  
ries, beers, cigarettes  
cigarettes.

seasoned with black pepper and lemon juice are universally acceptable, just so long as they are fresh and not curdling at the edges. Chicken livers wrapped in bacon and hot from the oven go down well, as do plumped prunes (stoned of course) given the same treatment. Freshly roasted almonds with plenty of salt are always popular. So are the bought-in delicacies, olives and more exotic ones. Olives are a matter of taste. And crisp, plain and fresh are seldom ignored.

For something a little different and not too demanding of time or money, the classic reference books offer a wealth of ideas which plastic food wrap and freeze make a great deal more practical now than they once were. The only real rules are that what should be hot is hot, what should be crisp is crisp, and that standing room only, nothing should be bigger than a biscuit.

Mixing the butter for, say, prawn canapés, with a few of the prawns, and seasoning it well, is an extra trick which works well with many different ingredients. Lilliputian pizzas made with flaky pastry in a well-seasoned tomato sauce can be made in advance, and frozen before or after baking, as long as they are served hot. More exotic are deep fried pillows of canapé meat, plain peanuts, chunks of mustard and pineapple impaled on a grapefruit sprig, celery filled with unseasoned cream cheese, chopped chipolatas studded, but in their own fat, soggy crackers topped with the lot, and that, and fancy open sandwiches glazed with apricot to withstand the central heating.

Cost is plainly no guide to the acceptability of cocktail canapés. Expensive caterers produce silvered trays of gourmet morsels which are undoubtedly mouthwatering when assembled at ten in the morning, and are boringly flabby by seven at night.

Harassed hostesses who do for themselves face exactly the same problem, the dilemma of advance preparation versus last minute panic with blobs of crème de fraîche on the front of a new frock.

Experienced survivors of the cocktail party circuit report numerous successes which stand in repetition. Smoked salmon sandwiches, skilfully cut from brown bread and well

Remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly before beating in the eggs one at a time. Stir in the diced cheese.

Using two teaspoons, mould half teaspoonfuls of the paste into balls and deep fry at 190°C (375°F) for six to eight minutes, turning them over at short half time. At this temperature a one-inch cube of day old bread will brown in 60 seconds and the paste will swell, more than doubling in size, into golden puffs. Drain and serve very hot.

Heat the mixture slowly, stirring constantly, and cook until it is really thick and comes away from the sides of the pan.

Next the mixture slowly

## NEW BOOKS

### The great catastrophe

Michael Ratcliffe

**Jailbird**  
By Kurt Vonnegut  
(Cape, £5.50)

The hero of Kurt Vonnegut's new novel is Walter F. Starbuck, President Nixon's (unconsulted) adviser on Youth Affairs and most obscure of Watergate conspirators ("It was like being in a wonderful musical comedy where the critics mentioned everybody but me"). A Harvard man, Walter emerges from jail without wife, job or prospects of any kind, and makes for New York City and the hotel where, at the height of the Great Depression, he had been both happy and humiliated in 1931.

Walter星的 next day, as if still in prison, takes his breakfast at a coffee shop down the block. I looked I saw customers of every description being received with love. To the wellwishes everybody was "honey-bunch" and "darling" and "sweetie". It was like a emergency ward after a great catastrophe. The catastrophe in this case, of course, was that the sun had come up again.

Vonnegut is not entirely joking. Indeed, in much of *Jailbird* he is not joking at all. Ever since *Slaughterhouse-Five* there has been a fight between desolation, anarchy and despair to take control of his novels and until now (*Breakfast of Chame-*

pions, *Slapstick*) anarchy and despair have just about shared the field—anarchy as the revitalising element in history's cosmic atmosphere, and despair run to a fine, stinging pitch by aphoristic perceptions and brilliant jokes. *Jailbird* is different: desolation is king. I don't think he has ever written such a desolate book before. Nor, more seriously, such an unfunny one: to be sure, a few of the jokes still kick hard, but for those few there are far too many lying on the ground with barely a twitch.

Social history lies with fantasciation, *Slapstick* was dedicated to the angelic shades of Laurel and Hardy. *Jailbird's* saints are Sagan and Vanzeni, not the same kind of quixotic act at all, but of course the characters whose actions dominate the plot such as the most spectacularly argued miscarriages of justice in American history.

*Jailbird* invokes the example of their meekness at several points as it contemplates a world in which anarchism, socialism, and humanism—all the personal assertions of "holy common sense"—are everywhere in the world. Selfish consumerism and Jewish wife and survival of Auschwitz whose talents were not always met with worldly success; her wedding photographs were irredeemably lugubrious; her cocktail pianist too fine.

Marie Kathleen, the Marxist

girlfriend of his Harvard youth,

is the most effective of Walter's women because she turns into the characters whose actions dominate the plot such as

the most spectacularly argued

miscarriages of justice in Ameri-

cana.

*Jailbird* is the most positive demon-

stration. Not that this alleviates

the desolation much, since

Walter Starbuck's four loves—

his mother, his wife, Sarah Clever and Mary Kathleen O'Looney—are all either dead

or lost to him, but it does help

to temper the bitterness near to

self-pity which threatens at

times to blow the novel apart.

Friend of all is Ruth, the

Jewish wife and survivor of

Auschwitz whose talents were

not always met with worldly

success; her wedding photo-

graphs were irredeemably lugu-

brious; her cocktail pianist too

fine.

Marie Kathleen, the Marxist

girlfriend of his Harvard youth,

is the most effective of Walter's women because she turns into the characters whose actions dominate the plot such as

the most spectacularly argued

miscarriages of justice in Ameri-

cana.

*Jailbird* produces just enough

uncomfortable perceptions like

this—another, in the foreword,

that a crowd believing itself to

be silent is not the same as a

crowd that really is—for us to

hope that the surrealist poet in

Vonnegut is merely dormant;

but in the main this is a pale,

dispiriting and unfocused per-

formance by one of the most

original and disturbing fabulists

of our time.

Tenderness remains, and is

for the novel's most positive demon-

stration. Not that this alleviates

the desolation much, since

Walter Starbuck's four loves—

his mother, his wife, Sarah Clever and Mary Kathleen O'Looney—are all either dead

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dispiriting and unfocused per-

formance by one of the most

original and disturbing fabulists

of our time.

first 24 hours of his release,

into Vice Presidents of the Cor-

poration; second, she redistributes RAMJAC's fortune among

# Stock Exchange Prices

## Rally fades

ACCOUNT DAYS : Declining Balance, Dec 1A Declining End, Dec 22 & Contingent Day, Dec 28 Settlement Day, Jan

**Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

John  
chartered

THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 1979

# THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Foord  
surveyors

Stock markets

Ind 423.6 up 0.7

Gilt 64.37 up 0.28

Sterling

530 up 25 points

x 69.5 up 0.4

Gold

x 85.1 up 0.3

Id

au once down 50.5

North money

Bank 16 11/16 to 16/1

513 13/16 to 14.00

**BRIEFS**

d slips

447

r early

IS

Breaking through \$450 the gold price slipped yesterday in close at \$447 an ounce. London exchange markets was generally a little although dealers still it is very vulnerable. Against the recovered much of lost earlier this year in London last week to sell up to one of gold from its reserves of \$2 million however, it may not sell the open market. Some the Canadian mint to leaf gold coins. gian discount rate was if a point to 103 per arday.

ill for Italy

ale will supply Italy million tons of crude oil double its ship both crude and products this year. A budget ministry has Venezuela has pre negligible quantity to Italy, but its refined oil products stantial. Future in supplies are possible, next said.

irms think again

group Debenham's all to sell its Harvey department store in edge, London. It is believed in the region of a made. A spokesman said last night if the disruption would cause to the y have decided to keep On the news Debenham's price eased 2p to

over patents

to restrict business found to be anti's will be introduced government's Competition tonight. An amendment authorizes the of Patents to cancel restrictive pro to make licences patent more freely in line with earlier legislation.

Soviet buying

er Union has bought 750,000 tons of recent weeks and may as much again to for this year's poor London trade sources tardy. This follows prior purchases from of 11 million tons of feed to make up few vest.

ter council call

for the application technology should assist developing introduce computer Mr Julian Bogod, of the British Comity, said last night.

actory for sale

tory at Kirby, Liverp of the KME workers which collapsed 6m government back sold. The premises 28 acre site owned by Land Property Develop-

higher

treer showed a small 97 points to close at he number of shares as 34,620,000.

## UK industry prepares for £100m a year trade as Rhodesia bar is lifted

By John Huxley  
Restrictions on trade with Southern Rhodesia were withdrawn yesterday in a series of government moves taking effect from midnight. They signalled the start of a period of hectic activity by British industry aimed at reestablishing itself in a market which trade officials believe could yield exports worth £100m in the next 12 months.

Removal of the sanctions almost restores normal commercial relations with Southern Rhodesia. As for other countries, licences will still be required for the import and export of certain types of goods subject to general restriction.

An additional requirement reflecting the terms of the political solution being worked out for the country is that exports to Southern Rhodesia of aircraft, aircraft spares and equipment will be subject to licensing control.

Exchange controls relating to Rhodesia were removed by the Treasury by means of Statutory Instruments laid before Parliament last night. This means that the abolition of exchange controls, announced by the Chancellor in October, becomes effective worldwide.

At the same time, the Export Credits Guarantee Department announced that insurance cover is now available for British exports to Southern Rhodesia. Cover will apply in the first instance to exports sold on credit terms not exceeding six months.

The ECGD is to keep under consideration the possibility of extending cover to other types of business in the light of developments in the market and the needs of British exporters, an official said.

Many British companies have remained in "arm's length" existence in Southern Rhodesia for the past 15 years, are still waiting for an indication from the Southern Rhodesia Department of Trade officials

said last night that hard information on trade prospects with Southern Rhodesia was lacking although it was hoped that some would be provided by a commercial counsellor, attached to the Foreign Office, who is now with Lord Soames.

A spokesman for Turner and Newall, best known for its asbestos interests, said last night that a team led by Mr Martin Bell, the finance director, was waiting with bags packed for a possible contact with its Rhodesian company.

But this would occur only when the authorities lifted restrictions on exchange of financial information.

Sir John Medwin, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, yesterday welcomed the opportunity of an early resumption of trade with Southern Rhodesia.

The CBI now expects to send a trade mission to Salisbury next month. It will be led by Mr Daniel Brewster, of Standard Chartered Bank.

British Airways hopes to resume flights to Salisbury within the next few days. Yesterday, the corporation was awaiting confirmation of its service by the Southern Rhodesian authorities.

The service will fly from Headrow via Nairobi. BA has retained a licence for the route since before Southern Rhodesia's declaration of independence.

An official said the twice-weekly service was "potentially very healthy source of revenue".

Meanwhile, British Caledonian is considering whether to appeal against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision not to grant the airline a licence for a twice-weekly service to Salisbury.

British Leyland International is considering sending a team to Salisbury to report on BL assembly operations.

## National ports body to be wound up

By Edward Townsend

The Government is to abolish the National Ports Council, the statutory body set up 15 years ago to oversee Britain's ports. Its work has been financed by a levy on the industry at times totalling more than £1m a year.

Responsibility for efficiency must now be put firmly on the ports themselves", said Mr Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport, in the Commons yesterday.

Mr Fowler said the council had brought considerable improvements over the years, but it would not be able to achieve the further improvements in the efficiency of the ports that the country needed.

Discussions between the Department of Transport, port users and the British Ports Association—the industry's trade association—are to take place to determine how the council's functions will be carried out in the future.

Mr Fowler added that he would introduce legislation making up the council as soon as he was satisfied with the industry's arrangements for improving its efficiency and productivity. It would include provision for the council staff.

The abolition of the NPC came as no surprise to the ports industry, which has been pressing for structural changes and

a greater degree of control over its wider responsibilities.

The council was established in 1964 under the Harbours Act. Its chairman is Sir John Page, who was chairman of the Mercury Docks and Harbour Company for five years up to 1977. It has eight other members and a staff of about 65.

The council's chief duties are to encourage and advise the industry in the interests of efficiency and to advise the Minister on port policy and development.

Finance for the council has come from a statutory levy on the industry with a maximum annual limit of £1.25m. During the 1970s, the levy has varied from £225,000 in 1970 to £1,050,000 in 1978. Last year the levy was £980,000.

The council's spending this year has been about £11m plus smaller sums raised by state grants for research and further grants to the industry for research.

The council's research has included work on instrumentation on dredgers, ship behaviour in shallow and confined channels, and container location systems for straddle carriers.

Mr Fowler's statement was included last night by Mr Eric Bainbridge, director of the British Ports Association. Plans were already being made to satisfy the Minister's requirements and the BPA could carry

out certain central functions such as the promotion of port research and training and the production of statistics.

The industry had changed, particularly in technical areas, "out of recognition" in the last 10 years, he said, and the time had come for a change in structure at a national level.

"Now ports will control the discharge of their controls and control the money. They will no longer be able to complain that the people who pay the piper are not allowed to call the tune."

## New guidelines for Scottish agency

New guidelines for the Scottish Development Agency announced yesterday introduced a firmer government grip over the agency's industrial investment activities. All major industrial investment will in future be managed by an "investment subsidiary" which will introduce new expertise alongside the agency's representatives.

Last year, the SDA investments had a loss of £1.5m and a turnover of £22m. In the four years of operations the agency has invested almost £20m. Mr Lewis Robertson, chief

executive, said yesterday there were three changes of emphasis introduced by the new guidelines.

The first was the investment subsidiary for which the agency had long seen practical advantages.

Secondly, in private sector participation the agency should invest in any enterprise for which private sector money was available, and that the agency's stake in a company should not be greater than 50 per cent of its funding without approval of the Government.

The agency's research and development programme and the BPA could carry

the agency would have a duty to include a buy-back clause in all relevant investment agreements, and when agency money had done its job, it should be withdrawn and reallocated to other developments.

Two other changes introduced by the guidelines were that the agency could provide guarantees of up to £100,000 without giving notice to the Secretary of State for Scotland and that the limit of investments without approval of the Secretary of State was reduced from £2m to £1m.

Jand, Wales, Scotland or Ireland, and be qualified barrister, solicitor or advocate.

Mr Barry Barker, secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries which has been fighting for such a clause for more than 10 years, said yesterday that he was delighted that the amendment covered all public companies.

The amendment, proposed by Mr Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby by Merseyside, was carried after two hours discussion. It states that a company secretary should have adequate knowledge and experience of his duties, and shall also be a member of either the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators or a member of any of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants for Eng-

land, Wales, Scotland or Ireland, and be qualified barrister, solicitor or advocate.

Mr Barry Barker, secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries which has been fighting for such a clause for more than 10 years, said yesterday that he was delighted that the amendment covered all public companies.

He pointed out that in the 1977 Stock Exchange Year Book, more than half the 4,000 secretaries of listed companies declared "no professional accountancy qualifications".

"The clause should deter boards from removing secretaries with whom they disagree, as they will not now be able to find anyone more amenable."

Mr Barker also pointed out that the public will now be offered some guarantee of pro-

## Stock Exchange takes first step towards introducing a three-tier market system

By Alison Mitchell

The Stock Exchange Council has taken the first step towards introducing a new Unlisted Securities Market (USM) has been proposed which will provide a halfway house between a private company and an official listing.

Trading under rule 163(2), whereby shares in unlisted companies currently change hands, will no longer be permitted to quote a two-way price or open a position in the shares.

An exposure draft on the USM, prepared by a committee headed by Mr Charles Eisinger, a partner in Akroyd & Smither, stock jobbers, has been accepted in principle by the Council.

The draft will now be sent to member firms and other

interested bodies for their opinions and comments and it is thought that if it is favourably received the new market could be in operation by early summer.

The council envisages a transition to official listing status once a company's capitalization reaches the £10m level.

The draft emphasizes that existing listed companies will not be allowed to move backwards into this new market.

Of the near 300 companies currently trading under rule 163(2), only 37 were considered active enough to warrant inclusion in the new market.

The USM will be regulated by the Quotations Committee and the member companies will be charged a flat-rate annual fee of £1,000. Other requirements for entry include good trading results for the previous two years, a market placing of less than £1.5m and a minimum of 15 per cent of the equity to be traded publicly.

However, there is speculation that James Burrough, which distills and markets "Beef-eater" gin and "Boroz" vodka, may be the first to make

the move. Shares in the group are currently dealt both in the Nightingale market and under rule 163(2).

Mr J. Sanger, group finance director, admitted that he would be looking with interest at the USM but that Nightingale suited the group's interest at present.

Mr John Roberson, senior partner at Wedd, Durlacher, Mordaunt, stock jobbers, said that the new system would technically make jobbing in the stocks much easier as the deal's official seal of approval from the Quotations Committee.

However, he pointed out that, under the new system, it would be impossible for shareholders to deal in "bed and breakfast" deal under rule 163(2) as jobbers could no longer take positions in the shares.

Financial Editor, page 19

## Ryton men accept £8 Chrysler output deal

By Clifford Webb

Chrysler UK Ltd becomes Taliyah on January 1) has made the first breakthrough in negotiations to achieve the substantial productivity improvements demanded by its French parent Peugeot Citroen.

British Rail said that its consultants were looking at the possibilities of undertaking work in Southern Rhodesia.

A mass meeting of 2,000 assembly line workers at its Ryton, Coventry, plant yesterday voted overwhelmingly to accept the recommendations of a union/management working party.

Details were not available, but the recommendations are known to cover the withdrawal of some restrictive practices and more mobility of labour. In return the Ryton workers will be able to increase wages by up to 28 a week.

Negotiations at the nearby Stoke engine plant are also in the final stages and management is optimistic about the outcome. Progress is much slower at Linwood, Renfrewshire, but is expected to speed up in the new year when 1,250 redundancies now being finalized are out of the way.

Mr George Turnbull, managing director of Chrysler UK, has said that he is looking for a 25 per cent improvement but has given a warning that if the loss-making subsidiary does not move into profits shortly "Peugeot could well pull the plug out and we shall go down the sink".

Meanwhile the BL joint negotiating council met yesterday to continue negotiations on even more sweeping productivity improvements demanded in return for a five per cent bonus scheme.

The talks were adjourned last night and will resume tomorrow.

Peugeot accused: The French National Assembly was reduced to uproar yesterday when Mr Pierre Juquin, the Communist member for Essonne, produced what he called a secret document showing that Peugeot-Citroen were subject to French law. The American freeze could not be enforced unless it could be upheld by a French court.

Ronald Pullen writes: Bank Markazi apparently agreed to accept interest of 134 per cent

## Iran campaigns for cuts in oil production throughout Opec

By Nicholas Hirst

Iran is to campaign for production cuts by all the Opec nations when the oil producers meet in Caracas, Venezuela, starting on Monday.

Several Opec countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Venezuela have indicated that, like Iran, they intend to reduce oil output next year.

Prices are expected to rise sharply. Mr Reza Ortiz, the Opec secretary general, is reported as saying that a 30 per cent increase is possible. This would take the official upper limit of \$23.50 to \$30.55 a barrel.

But prices are already higher than this on the spot market which Opec countries are using to fix their contracts for next year.

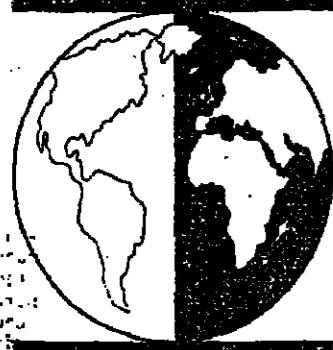
On the funds deposited with Citibank in Paris when it was told on December 4 that the deposits could not be withdrawn.

The French court ruling postpones for a week any decision on the Iranian claim that branches of United States banks come under the jurisdiction of the country in which they operate.

The hope is that the release of the American hostages in Tehran will allow the banking institution to blow over before it becomes embroiled in lengthy legal battles.

Meanwhile in London the legal moves are taking their course. Citibank said that a preliminary hearing had taken place in connexion with the actions brought by Bank Markazi and Citibank against each other. The court made some preliminary orders over the conduct of the proceedings but no date has been fixed for trial of any of the actions.

Other banks are still reluctant to become involved. Meetings over the last week of at least ten groups of banks involved in



## W Germany extends £98m credit to China

West German banks have negotiated the first Deutsche mark export credit to China in a deal likely to serve as a model for future projects.

The DM370m (about £98m) credit to the Bank of China will finance nearly 85 per cent of a DM440m mill contract to Mannesmann Demag AG for production of seamless steel tubes.

The credit, provided through AKA, a consortium of German banks, is intended to have a three-year period during which neither interest nor principal will be paid. Repayment then follows over four years.

This facility, which is likely to receive the maximum 95 per cent guarantee of the government-mandated Hermes Credit Insurance, is the first tangible loan from German banks to China. Previous loan agreements between individual German banks and the Bank of China, denominated in dollars, have yet to be drawn down, according to reliable banking sources.

### Australian surplus

Australia's balance of payments as measured by net official monetary movements showed a \$A13m (about £6,700,000) surplus in November after a \$A102m deficit in October. A trade surplus of \$A244m was the second highest recorded.

### Italy pessimistic

Signor Gastone Stammati, Italy's foreign trade minister, has predicted that the nation's economic growth in 1980 will be "substantially flat". This is a pessimistic switch. In its budget proposals last September the Italian Cabinet predicted gnp would rise 2.5 per cent in 1980.

### Swiss jobless rise

Swiss unemployment rose 8.1 per cent in November from October, but still represents only 0.3 per cent of the country's total labour force. It was 25.6 per cent below the year-earlier level, according to the Swiss Government's statistics office. The November total was 8,434 unemployed.

### Energy costs up

Consumer prices in countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development rose 1 per cent in October, the same rate as in September, bringing the rise over a year to 11 per cent. The OECD in Paris points out, however, that the annual rate of increase over six months fell slightly to 12.7 per cent from 12.9 per cent a month earlier. The price rise largely reflects higher energy costs.

### Trade surplus expected

The central bureau of statistics in Stockholm said industry expects Sweden to post a 37.5m krona (about \$41,400,000) trade surplus in the first half of 1980, after a 22.40m krona deficit for the second half of 1979 and a 7.88m krona surplus for the first six months of 1979.

### Chemical index higher

Index of Swiss chemical industry production in the third quarter rose to 225.3 (base 1965), an increase of 1.8 per cent from the second quarter and of 11.3 per cent from the same year ago level. The Chemical Industry Association said in Basle. In the first nine months output was 2.8 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

### Salaries claim

Wage claims submitted on behalf of members of the West German Salaried Employees' Union for next year should aim for increases of between 7.5 and 9 per cent, the union's deputy chairman Gerda Hesse, said in Hamburg.

# Lake & Elliot, Ltd.

HIGH INTEGRITY STEEL CASTINGS,  
INDUSTRIAL & MARINE VALVES  
AND HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st July, 1979.

	1979	1978
Group Turnover	£21,283m	£18,835m
Group Trading Profit	£1,939m	£1,621m
Earnings per Ordinary Share	14.0p	12.7p
Ordinary Dividend	4.7p	3.8987p

"With increases of 13% in Sales and 19.6% in Trading profit we have had a year of steady progress, against a background of declining demand."

In common with other companies in the Engineering Industry, most of our work force was involved in the engineers' national dispute, and overtime bans and strikes have had their inevitable effect upon the first two months of the current year.

Meanwhile, our order books remain steady and we continue to seek new markets and opportunities at home and overseas."

Peter Lake, Chairman

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, City Gate House, 39/45 Euston Square, London EC2.

Canadian Budget introduces radical change in energy policy

## Moving towards international oil price levels

Crude oil prices in Canada will more than double in the next four years under a plan presented to the House of Commons by Mr. John Crosbie, the Finance Minister.

The plan is to bring the Canadian price, now an exceptionally low \$Can13.75 a barrel, up to a level just below the present international price by January 1, 1984. Prices charged by members of Opec generally range at present between \$Can20 and \$Can7, although spot purchases can cost \$Can40 or more per barrel.

Mr. Crosbie, presenting the Government's first budget since the Conservative party displaced the Liberals in office six months ago, called for increases of \$Can4 a barrel next year and \$Can7.50 in following years, to total \$Can17.50 by 1984.

In addition Canadian excise tax on

petrol has been increased from the pre-

sent 7 cents a gallon to 25 cents, effective immediately, and the tax was extended to include all transportation fuels.

This measure by itself will boost the price of petrol in Toronto to around \$Can12.50 (almost 50p) a gallon. When the scheduled crude oil increases are implemented the price per gallon will rise to around \$Can27.70 (£1.06) by 1984.

Mr. Crosbie explained the increases were intended to reduce demand for oil, encourage exploration by oil companies to bring in new Canadian supplies, and encourage substitution of other energy sources.

"Our objective... is to move Canada rapidly away from dependence on oil imports and towards self-sufficiency by 1990," he said.

To stimulate substitution of natural gas for oil, gas prices will continue to be pegged at 85 per cent of oil on present

production volumes, with the ratio being reduced to 65 per cent on additional volumes.

Canada has a plentiful supply of natural gas but has been running out of its once plentiful reserves of crude oil.

Mr. Crosbie acknowledged that his pricing formula depended to a large extent on an agreement being reached with the producing Provinces, especially Alberta, but did not say what the Federal Government would do if such an agreement was not reached. Intensive negotiations over a period of several months have so far failed.

Other elements of a tough budget included a 5 per cent surtax on corporate profits, a 10 per cent rise in taxes on tobacco products, and an increase in tobacco, beer and wine duty.

John Best  
in Ottawa

## Minister seeks talks with Airfix

By David Fellow

A government minister wants an urgent meeting with the management of Airfix Industries to ask them to explain the closure at 30 minutes' notice of the Meccano factory in Liverpool where 960 sacked workers are staging a sit-in.

Mr. David Mitchell, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry, met shop stewards and officials from the Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday in London and told them that if the circumstances of the closure were as the workers described "it would appear that the management had behaved like a caricature of an 18th century mill owner."

He said circumstances of the closure and the company's alleged non-compliance with the 90-day notice of redundancy requirement of the Employment Protection Act was being investigated at the Department of Employment.

The minister also agreed to ask the Department of Health and Social Security to expedite social security payments to the workers who were sacked 10 days ago.

Shop stewards and union officials were accompanied at yesterday's meeting by Mr. Eric Heffer, Mr. Eric Ogden and Mr. David Alton, the MP for Liverpool. Mr. Ogden said he had been in touch with prospective customers for orders worth £500,000.

Mr. Frank Bloor, chairman of the factory's joint shop stewards committee, said the sit-in would continue until the workers received the statutory 90 days' notice of redundancy.

The unions believed that the factory could not be profitable.

Mr. Alan, Liberal MP for Edge Hill, said "the minister had undertaken to look into the granting of government aid to Airfix."



Mr. Ashley Raeburn, Rolls-Royce vice chairman, left, and Dr. K. Imai, on behalf of Japanese companies, toast the signing of an airline engine design agreement yesterday in London. The deal is worth £250m.

## US airline 'may drop use of Rolls engine'

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

Eastern Airlines, the major United States operator, is studying actively the possibility of buying American General Electric CFE-32 engines to its fleet of Boeing 757 airliners instead of Rolls-Royce RB211-535s, according to a foreword in the 1979-80 Jane's All The World's Aircraft published today.

Mr. John W. R. Taylor, editor, says that the managing director of Rolls aeropropulsion division has told his staff that "Boeing will never let the poor performance of a supplier stand in the way of their success", and that the potential sale of RB211s for 2,000 airliners during the 1980s is in the balance.

At the time of writing the foreword the RB211-535 programme was eight weeks behind schedule.

Mr. Taylor writes: "Time is now running out for evidence of shrewd leadership in the top management to come forward in the shop floor of Britain's aerospace industry. Without these once traditional virtues, all the skill and talent in the world are lost."

His warning comes at a time when Rolls-Royce is joining a new international project Joint design of a commercial aircraft engine is to be carried out by Rolls and three Japanese companies under an agreement signed in London yesterday.

The design is for an engine of about 19,000lb thrust to enter service in 1986. It is intended for airliners of up to 150 seats and is based on the RB211-535 project.

The Japanese companies working with Rolls are Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries, Kawasaki Heavy Industries and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

The editor of Jane's All The World's Aircraft is also critical in his foreword of present Government plans for the British aerospace industry. He says that the nationalised British Aerospace was showing signs of life by the beginning of 1979, including Britain's rejoining the European airbus programme.

Not only does Dr. Gath share the responsibility for running GEC, the largest commercial bank, but he is also a trusted adviser of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor.

## Enterprise the 'basis for creating wealth'

By Peter Hill

Encouragement of the entrepreneur and enhancement of the engineering profession were identified by Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, last night as crucial to the revitalisation of Britain's industrial base.

He suggested that both should be accorded the highest priority if society was to recognise the importance of creating wealth rather than its redistribution. Both, he said, were proposals for using the country's resources more effectively.

Speaking at the Hawley Lecture at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Sir Peter traced the decline of Britain's manufacturing performance but said that the decline was not inherently irreversible.

In developing our society, we have too often ignored the virtues of enterprise. It is enterprise which lies at the base of our ability to create wealth."

Government, he said, could only control the framework in which enterprise could flourish, and this it was seeking to do through its fiscal policies.

## Business appointments

## New chief executive at Rhodesian bank

Mr. A. Wren is to assume the duties of chief executive of The Standard Bank in Southern Rhodesia in succession to Mr. J. S. Davidson. Mr. Davidson will be joining the bank's London management as general manager on special duties and as a director of the group's international business with Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. Tim Wade has recently been made director and general manager of Shaw Timber.

Mr. W. M. Banschan is to become director of international operations of Weir Pumps. He is at present managing director of Weir Group's associate company Walton-Werl-Pacific, Zanzibar, Spain. Mr. T. A. Hunter, until recently executive director of the company's spares and service division, of which he was formerly customer service manager. And Mr. G. W. Smith, who has been company secretary since 1976, also becomes an executive director.

Mr. E. S. Booth is now a director of British Electricity International and consultant to the Electricity Commission.

Mr. J. L. Stretch has been appointed to the board of Sedicke Nichols Williams (S.C.C.), the building division subsidiary of English China Clay.

Mr. R. A. West has been appointed finance director of Tedington Appliance Controls.

## 'UK gain' from ending flags of convenience

By Michael Bailey

British shipping could be a leading beneficiary if the United Nations committee for Trade and Development is able to carry out its threat to phase out flags of convenience on the world's oceans.

This unexpected conclusion is taken from a new study by the Economist Intelligence Unit for American shipping interests, who own about a third of the world's 200 million deadweight tons or \$17,000m worth of flags of convenience shipping and, therefore feel themselves heavily threatened by possible UNCTAD moves.

According to the EIU report measures against flags of convenience would probably result in the transfer of tonnage not to developing countries but to "quasiflags of convenience" in the low cost OECD countries such as Britain, Greece and Spain.

The report is to be published in January along with UNCTAD's studies on the subject currently being carried out on an instruction from last May's UNCTAD conference in Manila.

We remain your very humble servants,

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Women candidates for top jobs

From Mrs V. J. Baumier

Sir, Mr. Arkle (December 5) states that he gets no women candidates for top management posts, but can himself see no reason for this.

As a woman who, at 22, is studying for professional accountancy examinations and has recently married, I would like to shed some light upon the black chasm in the mind of Mr. Arkle.

The women in Britain who do want a career have spent many years fighting convention, and in Britain we all know how big a brick wall conventions and traditions can be, and now, due to their efforts, the wall is beginning to crumble.

Having won their right to "top jobs", the supply of suitably qualified women is not suddenly available. It will take time for the schoolgirls and female students of recent years to gain the experience necessary to be classed alongside the traditional 40-year-old building executive, and I would suggest that, in 15 years' time, the number of women holding

executive positions will have increased, but never, Mr. Arkle, will you have as many women as men.

Personally I have quite prepared for the five years of study necessary to gain a professional qualification in order that I will always have the ability to earn a good living at an interesting job but, however career-minded a woman is, many feel myself feel that an executive office is no substitute for motherhood.

Yours faithfully,

VICTORIA J. BAUMIER,  
The Lygon Arms,  
Broadway,  
Worcestershire,  
December 5.

From Mrs Margaret Collingbourne Rivers

Sir, It is primarily a problem of age: getting a business experience after graduation, with good qualifications (and the bonus of youth) is for a female executive to be classed alongside the traditional 40-year-old building executive, and I would suggest that, in 15 years' time, the number of women holding

### Alcoholism and the cost of drink

From Prof R. E. Kendall

Sir, Mrs. Rosemary White is horrified by press reports that I stated at the World Health Assembly that governments must take legislative measures such as "greatly increased taxation" to reduce the consumption of alcohol.

The report she read was not wholly accurate. Although at the World Health Assembly I made a resolution in May, 1979 recognising that problems related to alcohol are one of the world's major public health problems" and urging member states to "take appropriate measures to reduce the consumption of alcohol among all sectors of the population".

Dr. Guth expressed similar cautious optimism on the future of the Euromarkets. He said that it was the duty of the international banks to maintain confidence in established market structures.

He saw no reason for the legal entanglements surrounding the servicing of Iranian debt to develop into a crisis on the markets. Iran

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Putting in another tier

achieved some success over the past of years with a revival of its 163(2) for unlisted securities. The Stock Exchange is going one step further and proposes a new and additional unlisted market.

But this will attract companies unable to meet the onerous requirements for full listing but who nevertheless enjoy being part of the stock market and some of the benefits available in the senior or top tier market.

The purpose of doing this now may not be entirely clear, especially to those who enter the Rule 163(2) market.

But the Stock Exchange's commendable aim of encouraging growth of developing businesses is also an awareness that the Wilson Committee could suggest something along lines when it reports next year and again that M. J. H. Nightingale's over-the-counter has gobbled up useful pieces of potential business.

The proposed market looks a much more attractive alternative to Nightingale, 163(2), will continue Rule 163(2) originally designed for low profile com-

panies who wanted to stay that way and had led and potentially dangerous disadvantages of being more or less unregulated than the Stock Exchange.

Nonetheless the Stock Exchange may be the new USM against its own best interest. It would undoubtedly have preferred to avoid such fraying at the edges after all smacks of the fragmentation used to worry people so much a few years ago. But the new issue market looks set for too long and shows so few of reviving that the Stock Exchange afford to take any other view at the moment.

In this "transitional market" where fees and cost of entry are less rigid, there is a listing; where the dangers of losing control of their companies entirely eliminated and from where it is easier to gain entry to the senior market.

Nightingale meanwhile it looks like formidable competition for just as it did. Ariel threatened its traditional business a few years ago, the Exchange is moving effectively to its monopoly.

ed to  
rsify

der business has never been the same since duty was levied for the first two years ago and Bulmer is a truly one-product company, has had a better time ever since trying to plug the gap.

latest half-year figures showing profits before exceptional up from £24m, managed to impress the market



Mr. Prior, chairman of Bulmer.

the shares gained a couple of pence. But Bulmer is unlikely ever to see the sort of returns it made out of cider.

1977, margins on cider have improved period from 11.8 to 12.5 per cent to an 8 per cent price increase and raw material costs owing to the apple crop last year, but that is some down on the 15 per cent the group had at its peak. And cider sales are a far off from the 15 per cent growth in the early 1970s and Bulmer

has had to spend heavily on promotion to keep sales even 2 per cent ahead in the latest period.

As it is, Bulmer is making only hesitant steps to move away from its cider roots. Wines and spirits are doing well enough but are still only 3 per cent of trading profits while the moves overseas to Australia and the United States are small in scale and ambition.

Borrowings have continued to escalate and will be some £2m higher at £5.5m next April but gearing will only be 40 per cent and the rise is hopefully temporary while the funding of last year's exceptional apple crop continues.

But it likely yield of just over 7 per cent with profits this year still some way away from the £3.5m peak is little enough support for a company that needs to find another profits leg to stand on.

Marley

## Finding new markets

Marley's profits were almost exactly as forecast. They rose £3.5m to £22.1m, again demonstrating the building products and do-it-yourself company's ability to locate new markets. The final dividend was 3.57p, bringing the year's payout to 5.7p, an increase of 44 per cent at the net level.

The weak link was the United Kingdom. A poor winter depressed first-half results, so that trading profit at home grew just £633,000 to £15.1m. But these circumstances are not likely to be repeated. Marley expects that roofing tile sales next year will be much the same as this, and any reduction in profits on the construction side will be offset by stronger DIY sales with floorspace in retail stores nearly doubling in 1980 to 720,000 sq ft.

And whatever happens at home, overseas sales seem set for a further substantial rise. Trading profit abroad went up by £4.28m to £1.9m, with South Africa, France, Canada and the USA particularly strong.

Acquisitions in the United States and Brazil accounted for about £8m of the £19m increase in borrowings to a total of £51m. But at that rate, gearing is still low and the leasing operation continues to work its magic on tax liabilities.

Profits next year of £26m are easily within reach, with the present dividend cover of 4.4 allowing the payout again to be raised faster than profits go up. At 7.5p the shares yield 7.5 per cent.

Guthrie

## Underlying potential

Plantation shares have hardly looked back since Sime Darby brought asset values out into the open through its abortive bid for Guthrie Corporation earlier this year.

It is no surprise then that Guthrie shares yesterday shrugged off signs that the group is likely to miss its £30m profit forecast for the full year by a fair margin. Although not up to best hopes, interim profits are 90 per cent ahead of £9.1m thanks to burgeoning plantation profits, on the back of firm rubber and palm oil prices, and a quite dramatic recovery in the United States manufacturing operations.

Against this niggling losses mainly from the carots and textile operations in the United Kingdom and Australia and trading losses in Africa and the Middle East are a drag on profits. However, sterling's strength and rising interest rates are the main reasons that Guthrie seems unlikely to manage much more than £27.5m for the full year against £20.9m.

This points to a p/e of around 13 and yield of at least 6.7 per cent on the forecast payment with the shares easing 5p to 59p yesterday.

This rating reflects a net asset value of 62p as well as the attractions of a growing Malaysian economy and commodities in general and to some extent hopes that Sime Darby will return to the fray next March.

The last possibility is beginning to seem unlikely. Although ending of exchange controls would mean Sime could use its shares to bid next time, the run up in the Guthrie price could have put its quarry beyond reach for the moment.

Even if the price rises just in

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Even if the price rises just in

## Business Diary: Why Gilchrist went • Macmillan ahoy

Nathalie Boissé (right) seems to have had her last chance of becoming a member of France's famous jewellers Cartier, managing director, although she no doubt wishes the opportunity had come elsewhere and by any other means.

Her father, Robert Boissé, chairman of the jewellers Cartier, was a resistance fighter who survived Buchenwald concentration camp to be killed by a car as he left his Paris office at the weekend.

Nathalie, 28, had been nominated head of Cartier's high jewellery division and Alain Perrin, head of the lighters, pens and leather goods activities.

Boissé père made his mark in business as head of the Silver Match lighter company. He pushed first gas lighters, then disposable refills and helped give France its lead in throw-away lighters.

A rather inharmonious game of musical chairs is being played by the supervisory board of Daimler-Benz West Germany's greatest motor manufacturer.

Wilfried Gutsch, Daimler's supervisory board chairman, cannot find a place on the board for the company's outgoing chief executive Dr Joachim Zahn.

It is not that Dr Zahn is not wanted on the supervisory board—the body that oversees the management of the company's interests. Indeed, it is more than 20 years as a member of the group's top management. Du-

Zahn has more than anybody shaped Daimler's policy and helped it to its outstanding success.

It's just that, if anything, he has been too successful. Daimler is now such an important company that none of the bankers or industrialists elected to represent shareholders' interests on the supervisory board is prepared to make way for him on his retirement at the end of the year.

Now seems as if Dr Gutsch, despite his affection for Dr Zahn, is coming up with a solution. He is said to be trying to talk the representative of the shareholding protection society into vacating his board seat to make way for Dr Zahn.

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It is mildly interesting that the new boy is the MP for Farnham, Surrey, has a country place in Gloucestershire and is chairman of the family publishing firm—and therefore not perhaps best known for his love of going down to the sea in ships. It is interesting, if a little confusing—if not as confusing as it will be in the Yarrow boardroom where they already have one McMillan, the company secretary.

But then, that would be to

overlook the fact that Sir Eric, despite his affection for Dr Zahn, is no longer best known

for his love of Tory ministers. This is because his engineering consultancy was once a shipbuilder, until two years ago when Labour ministers nationalized that part of the business.

With the little job he has picked up this week, however, he is back on the scene in his politically most contentious role since 1974 and the three-day week.

Macmillan is to be a non-executive director of the Glasgow maritime engineering consultants, Yarrow and Company.

Nothing very interesting about that, you might think, since Yarrow likes to have a Tory politician around the place.

In June this year, for example, it piped aboard Baroness Skrimshire of Quarter, but she died last month. As Betty Harvie Anderson, the Tory MP for Renfrew East, she had been what the company's chairman Sir Eric Yarrow has called "a staunch friend and supporter" of the company for many years.

It is mildly interesting that the new boy is the MP for Farnham, Surrey, has a country place in Gloucestershire and is chairman of the family publishing firm—and therefore not perhaps best known for his love of going down to the sea in ships. It is interesting, if a little confusing—if not as confusing as it will be in the Yarrow boardroom where they already have one McMillan, the company secretary.

But then, that would be to overlook the fact that Sir Eric, despite his affection for Dr Zahn, is no longer best known

Ross Davies

## Economic notebook

### Oiling the wheels of the Exchequer

The western world is bracing itself for still higher oil prices after next week's meeting of the oil exporters in Caracas. But for the British Government the cloud of dearer oil has a silver lining.

For every 10 per cent that the oil price is pushed up, the Government's revenues from the North Sea rise by more than 10 per cent. Although these revenues have had only a marginal impact on government finances so far, they will become an increasingly important factor in the equation of public spending, borrowing and taxation.

The rise in oil prices which has already taken place this year has thrown out most estimates, including those of the Government, of the effects of North Sea production on the British economy. Higher than expected prices have an effect on the estimated benefits of North Sea oil both to Britain's balance of payments and to the Government's tax receipts.

Of course, higher oil prices outweigh these benefits in the long run. If Opec pushes the price up significantly next week, as it almost certainly will, there will be many unpleasant consequences for the world economy which will naturally damage Britain too.

World inflation will probably accelerate, growth will slow down and increased instability in the international financial markets as huge payments imbalances build up.

So far most discussion of the economic effects of the North Sea has concentrated on the balance of payments improvement and the consequent effect on the pound's exchange rate. As Britain has moved towards oil self-sufficiency, and as oil-dominated foreign exchange markets have buoyed up sterling, this emphasis has been

lost. The Treasury's latest estimates, published in August, suggest that the North Sea tax take would total about £4.75m at 1978 prices by mid-1980s.

For comparison, the Government raised £18.75m from income tax during 1978-79 and had total borrowing requirement of £9.25m, with a target of £8.300m for this year.

Since the Treasury based its figure on the assumption of a falling real sterling price of oil, it is already outdated by this year's price rises.

Stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie are updating their latest estimates to take account of the recent surge in oil price rises. They expect North Sea revenues to rise to well over £10.000m (in money terms) by the mid-1980s.

There is no simple relationship between rises in the oil price and the increase in government revenues. There are three different sources of revenue—royalties, corporation tax and petroleum revenue tax. The last two rise more than proportionately with the price, as increased profits bring more fields into the tax net and as the fixed costs which have been written off in the early years of production do not rise with the price.

The sharp rises in oil prices which have already taken place this year, together with the prospect of more to come next week, have apparently influenced the Government's devaluation policy in the North Sea. Until now the Treasury has resisted any attempts to slow down oil production.

This week, however, Mr David Howell, the Energy Secretary, hinted that the Government intends to have a positive depletion policy. Dearer oil means that Britain can afford to keep it longer in the ground.

Unfortunately, the prospects for the economy are so dismal that North Sea oil is more likely to ease misery than to solve any problems. The oil-induced increase in government revenues may well be eaten up as quickly as the balance of payments deficits have so far been devoured.

Caroline Atkinson

### A bigger recycling role for the IMF?

#### New York

Many oil-importing nations will face balance of payments difficulties next year and acute strains may be placed on the international financial system. The precise nature of the problems which emerge will depend on the attitudes of commercial banks and the International Monetary Fund towards lending to deficit nations and the ability of the fund and the banks to provide adequate resources.

Mr David Rockefeller, chairman of Chase Manhattan Bank, says that the real problem is that the risks in lending to many of the oil-importing developing countries have increased and in many cases banks are reaching their lending limits for individual countries.

The truth is simply that many of the countries that used to have low outstanding debts relative to their debt servicing capabilities now should have heavy debt loads. To add to these debt loads is to increase the risk bankers have to take. In view of this Mr Rockefeller has no doubt that the IMF will have to play a much bigger role.

In some people's wildest dreams, the profits from the North Sea could mean that oil companies pay enough to the Government to let the rest of us income tax altogether or wipe out the Government's borrowing requirement.

Although this is almost inconceivable, it is true that oil revenues may save the Government from putting up income tax rates. The Treasury is aiming to raise £1.5bn from oil revenues to £2.5bn in 1980. These vast amounts have to be recycled to the oil importers to enable them to pay their oil bills.

A large part of this recycling may have to be undertaken by the IMF and the banks. The eagerness with which some banks have rushed to lend to high-risk countries has enabled these countries to avoid taking necessary domestic measures, that they would have taken if they had had to bow to the conditions the IMF attaches to its loans.

Mr Rockefeller sees closer relations between the banks and the IMF developing, but he stresses that it would be disastrous if developing countries thought the banks and the fund were ganging up against them.

One must hope that action is taken in good time to ensure that crises do not develop, rather than that, as often in the past, officials decide that action is needed only after all manner of grave difficulties have surfaced.

But informal talks are taking place more frequently between the fund and the banks and cooperation has been experienced, and will be experienced more often in the future. He cites as an example the way that the bank, together with the fund, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Turkish Government worked together to help with Turkey's financial crisis.

So far, few officials in international organizations and national governments have shown much concern in public for next year's recycling problems. The worries of the bankers seem valid enough and perhaps it is high time that officials at least prepared for the creation of some new kind of oil facility, or some sort of international financial safety valve.

Mr Rockefeller is not alone in expressing his worries. Mr Rimmer of VTB, a vice-chairman at Moscow's Gostorgas, has said in Paris recently that the foreign investments and cash assets of Opec were likely to rise to \$300,000m in 1980 from \$160,000m at the end of 1978.

Tensions

The commercial banks would be unable to handle such vast amounts, he said, and because of rising risks they would be unable to lend to growing numbers of developing countries. The official institutions must do more of the lending and take other steps to reduce the monetary tensions that could emerge as Opec handles such huge assets.

As one listens to the bankers one is forced to the conclusion that for a variety of reasons the nervousness and sense of uncertainty in financial markets may be greater next year than this. There is no alternative now other than to welcome much greater IMF and official involvement in the financial aspects of Opec's surprises.

One must hope that action is taken in good time to ensure that crises do not develop, rather than that, as often in the past, officials decide that action is needed only after all manner of grave difficulties have surfaced.

Frank Vogl

## Killing Leyland with kindness

### Michael Grylls

MPs of all parties admire the achievements of Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of British Leyland. He has brought back respect for management and he has cut over-manning by 18,000 jobs.

But he has still to prove that he can run a profitable motor car company.

If the public were asked whether the Government should put more taxpayer's money into BL, the answer would be a resounding "No". As so often, the public would be right.

The sharp rises in oil prices which have already taken place this year, together with the prospect of more to come next week, have apparently influenced the Government's devaluation policy in the North Sea. Until now the Treasury has resisted any attempts to slow down oil production.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## CompAir not as bad as feared

By Rosemary Unsworth  
CompAir, the manufacturer of compressed air equipment, slightly exceeded market expectations by producing a 33 per cent profit fall on a small increase in turnover.

Pretax profits fell to £835m from £1.15m on a turnover of £153.5m against £147m in the year to September 30, 1979. The share price moved up 4½p to 60½p on the announcement.

Problems started at the beginning of the year with the transport strike, which hit the first six months, prompted the group to initiate a cost-cutting programme which included reducing its workforce by around 300 people. The redundancy costs, which amount to some £500,000 will be taken into the

## Costs will slow Redfearn

By Alison Mitchell  
Better second-half profits at Redfearn National Glass are good as far as they go, but that is not far. Exceptional costs which will be borne in the first half of the current period will leave the year's profits for 1979-80 on the £3.5m plateau for the third year running.

Although the group followed a first-half profit of £340,000 with a £1m profit in the second six months the pre-tax figure for the 52 weeks to September 30, 1979 amounted to £3.5m against £3.9m. Sales rose 16 per cent to £56m.

The bad weather and transport strike, which hit the first six months, prompted the group to initiate a cost-cutting programme which included reducing its workforce by around 300 people. The redundancy costs, which amount to some £500,000 will be taken into the



Mr. J. L. C. Pratt, chairman of Redfearn National Glass.

first half of the current year.

The £1.5m rebuilding of one of the furnaces at the York

factory will reduce capacity for 10 weeks in the first six months and the group is likely to do little more than break even.

However, the group is confident that it will be able to make up lost ground in the second six months. The cost of starting up the new plastic bottle manufacturing subsidiary will also limit first-half earnings potential.

A new policy of tempering price increases to suit the market conditions has increased the sales of glass bottles but has reduced margins. At the trading level these fall from 9.2 to 7.7 per cent.

Interest charges almost doubled to £1m despite a reduction in borrowings. At the year-end gearing, at 38 per cent, is nine points below the previous level.

The annual dividend stays at 9.2p.

These subscriptions have been received since December 3.

Following this renewed interest from private investors the company is extending the closing date for applications to Friday December 28 1979.

This is the second attempt to get the project off the ground. Originally launched last summer through London stockbrokers John Siddall and Son and Parsons that interest had been expressed by several institutions.

This interest has not been translated into cash yet but a company spokesman said last night that he was confident it would reach the £1.4m target with the help from one or two institutions.

Now the company has

rethought its prospectus the public is being asked to invest only £3.2m a minimum of £1.4m will be necessary to keep the project alive.

When the prospectus was re-launched last month there was a hint from northern stockbroker John Siddall and Son and Parsons that interest had been expressed by several institutions.

This interest has not been translated into cash yet but a company spokesman said last night that he was confident it would reach the £1.4m target with the help from one or two institutions.

Now the company has

## Skyships wins more support

By Our Financial Staff

Investment interest in Britain's answer to the Starship "Enterprise" is beginning to take off. Isle of Man based Thermo-Skyships, which is attempting to raise cash for development of a lighter-than-air craft, reports renewed interest in its prospectus which was re-launched last month.

The company says that applications for the prospectus are arriving at the rate of 100 a day and so far it has received a total of £316,000 from 641 investors. The vast majority of

these subscriptions have been received since December 3. Following this renewed interest from private investors the company is extending the closing date for applications to Friday December 28 1979.

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Now the company has

## Union Corporation Group Gold Mines

Points made in the Statements by the Chairmen Mr. E. Pavitt and Mr. L. W. P. van den Bosch

- \* A year of record breaking activity in the gold market.
- \* Ore reserves up on higher gold price.
- \* Increases in working costs kept below average.
- \* Improved efficiency with more experienced work force.
- \* Equal employment opportunities for all races now vitally necessary.

## Results for the year ended 30th September 1979 (compared with results for previous year)

Name of Company	Tons Milled '000	Gold Produced Kg	Net Profit R'000	Dividends cents per share	Ore Reserves '000	Tons Value gms/ton
Bracken	770 (798)	4,682 (5,389)	7,849 (6,649)	52 (44)	2,500 (1,400)	5.7 (8.3)
Kinross	1,580 (1,560)	9,996 (11,532)	17,079 (13,961)	74 (55)	6,300 (5,700)	7.1 (8.3)
Leslie	1,025 (925)	4,201 (4,228)	5,162 (3,599)	32 (21)	3,200 (1,600)	4.6 (6.2)
St. Helena	1,932 (1,930)	17,305 (17,429)	32,495 (22,212)	300 (190)	10,900 (7,500)	11.6 (15.5)
Unisel	2,100 (2,077)	15,488 (15,785)	29,584 (19,885)	205 (129)	9,400 (7,000)	8.9 (8.3)
Winkelhaak						

Ore reserves are those calculated at a gold price of R7,500 per kilogram (US\$280 per ounce) for 1979; R5,500 per kilogram (US\$200 per ounce) for 1978.

## Bracken Mines Limited

Development in the endorsed prospecting area on the farm Witkleefontein has been accelerated. To the east, Kinross Mines Limited has developed an area on behalf of the Company. Values exposed have been encouraging and stoping operations will now be put in hand. As there are limited areas within the lease area which remain to be developed, we estimate that at current gold prices the life of the mine could be about four years.

In August 1979 the mine became a double millionaire for the first time, completing two million consecutive fatality free shifts.

## Kinross Mines Limited

A considerable portion of the development took place in the No. 2 shaft area where values have so far proved to be higher than in the blocks presently being mined from the No. 1 shaft complex. Stoping in the No. 2 shaft area commenced recently and it is anticipated that in the coming year there will be a steady increase in production from this area and a concomitant reduction in operations in the southern section of the mine. At the same time production from the higher grade northern area is likely to offset further yield reductions in the low grade southern sections of the mine.

## Leslie Gold Mines Limited

In the coming year further reductions in yield can be expected in line with the lower grade ore which can now be mined in terms of the lease agreement. The higher gold price has made it possible to re-enter previously unpayable areas and re-equipping of these areas is being carried out.

Taking the present gold price to cost ratio we estimate that the mine will be able to continue in operation for at least a further five years but a reduced grade.

## St. Helena Gold Mines Limited

Development was again mainly confined to the No. 8 shaft area and particularly towards the Ongegund boundary. The Basal and Leader reef have been intersected and some encouraging values have been exposed.

The fluctuating gold price has added considerably to the major problem of forward planning of mining operations and the economic mining of the lower grade areas of the mine. This is an important factor in opening up the Ongegund area.

At No. 8 shaft a surface chilled water refrigeration plant has been commissioned to supplement the existing plants. This ventilation method has proved to be most efficient in improving underground working conditions.

## Unisel Gold Mines Limited

Progress has been most satisfactory and the mine officially opened on 2 October 1979. Stoping in the pre-production phase has yielded gold to the value of some R7 million. Total capital expenditure to 30 September 1979 amounted to R78 million.

It is anticipated that full production of 75,000 tons of ore per month will be reached by the calendar year end.

## Winkelhaak Mines Limited

Initial development values in the north-east have been most encouraging and further exploratory work will be undertaken in this area.

Construction has commenced on a surface chilled water refrigeration system at No. 5 shaft which will improve environmental conditions in the deeper portion of the northern section of the mine.

Copies of the full reports of the companies each of which is incorporated in the Republic of South Africa for the year ended 30th September 1979, are available from the London Secretaries, Union Corporation (U.K.) Limited (Ref E/O), 95 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BS.

## Stock markets

## Golds and oils active in limp trading

Share prices held firm yesterday even though dealers remained uneasy.

Hopes that equities would maintain the late rally witnessed on Tuesday soon faded after dealing resumed yesterday and with it went most hopes of a major rally before the Christmas holidays.

Dealers reported that buyers were thin on the ground, in spite of the brighter political outlook, and those that were to be seen were highly selective.

Babcock & Wilcox climbed 4p to 60½p as speculative buyers moved in. The theory is that the Government's plans for atomic energy will be in much

Standard & Chartered was in other carried along by investor demand coupled to interest rates in Rhodesia rising 10p to 46p.

Among commodity reporters H. P. Balfour gained 3p to 101½p and CompAir improved 4p to 60½p, but GKN with stocks nearly doubled, slipped to 55p. Elson & Robbins called to shareholders last week to sell shares by 10p to 101½p, improved 4p to 102p. In the year to December 31, 1978, the group had a 35 per cent increase in turnover to £1.25 billion and a 12 per cent jump in net profit to £100 million.

Press comment was good for a 6p rise in Carless, Capel & Leonard to 71p, and hopes of a counter bid to the one from Tricentrol-Hired Cableform to 60p. GKN Shipping improved, however, at 37½p.

The £21.265 includes £64,602 profit on the sale of machinery and the forecast from Mr. H. Spring Grove Services, Luton, ICI First National Insurance, Royal Insurance, British Ultramarine, Charter Coal, Barclays Bank Standard & Chartered, BP, new Shell Trafalgar House Telephone, Rents, Midland, new Marks & Spencer, GEC and RAT.

## Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Earnings per share pence	Dividends pence	Pay date	Year's date
Int or Fin	£1.14 (0.08)	8.6 (4.6)	NH (NH)	—	1.69 (1.54)
Ambrose Wilson (F)	£7.4 (6.64)	12.57 (5.64)	2.5 (2.6)	6/2	3.75 (2.5)
Lea & Sons (F)	£1.04 (0.02)	—	—	—	—
Barclay HBB (F)	£8.47 (5.1)	0.90 (0.63)	21.0 (17.7)	4.5 (—)	3.1 (—)
Blackman Conrad (I)	£4.04 (3.1)	0.11 (0.05)	—	NH (NH)	—
Butterfield-H (I)	£27.13 (27.09)	0.13 (1.5)	1.3 (1.3)	22/1	— (—)
Bulmer (I)	£25.1 (20.9)	17.6 (15.1)	17.0 (15.0)	25/2	21.02 (1.02)
Derritron Systems (I)	£17.01 (15.04)	8.2 (6.5)	6.02 (5.52)	4/20 (20)	— (—)
Dovercourt (I)	£7.2 (6.4)	0.50 (0.50)	—	3.4 (2.1)	— (—)
Elson & Robbins (F)	£19.95 (15.83)	2.3 (1.6)	33.73 (18.06)	6/2	5.0 (—)
E. Driofontes (I)	—	—	—	CS (7.5)	—
Hydrogold Rubber (I)	—	—	—	41.5 (20.0)	—
J. W. Drury (I)	—	—	—	8.0 (8.0)	6/2
John Selwyn (I)	—	—	—	40 (30)	6/2
K. Loof (I)	—	—	—	4.0 (2.5)	—
Kuala Selangor (I)	—	—	—	9.0 (6.0)	1/2
Guthrie Corp (I)	£133.0 (125.0)	9.1 (4.8)	—	25.5 (25.5)	14/1
Morganite (I)	—	—	—	1.0 (0.9)	— (—)
Montgomery (I)	£2.78 (2.60)	2.27 (2.25)	—	11.27 (10.5)	16.55 (15.82)
Western Nat Glass (I)	£0.60 (0.48)	3.3 (3.3)	46.7 (55.8)	21/1	—
Robert Moss (I)	£1.6 (1.2)	0.31 (0.25)	1.88 (1.60)	0.7 (—)	31/1
Schlesinger Inv (I)	—	0.11 (0.28)	—	3.0 (3.0)	—
Sperat (F)	—	0.02 (0.01)	46.3 (23.9)	19.01	—
Stratford Capital (I)	£1.7 (1.9)	0.02 (0.04)	1.01 (4)	—	—
Venture (I)	—	—	—	20 (15)	—
Viskontefra (I)	—	—	—	(10)	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.42. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a=2 weeks. b=27 weeks. c=cents.

## Elson &amp;





## PERSONAL CHOICE

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.  
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: A live report from the deck of HMS Dreadnought, a nuclear submarine. Also Tony Babb's movie spot.  
1.45 The Flumpies story for children, Grandmother's Birthday (r). Close Down at 2.00.

1.55 Play School: the story is The Willow Pattern. The storytellers are Carol Chell and Ben Barrell.  
2.20 Deputy Dawg: cartoon. Low Man, Low Man (r).  
2.45 Jackanory: Jim Grant reads his story Littlestone's Birthday.  
4.40 Screen Test: Movie quiz, before Arrow Way School, Amisfield and Emmanuel School, Wokingham.  
5.00 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreaders.  
5.05 Blue Peter: Lighting the first candle on the Advent Crown.

## BBC 2

11.00 am Play School same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.  
4.50 pm Open University: 4.50 S100 Preparatory: Maths; angles; 5.05 5.40 Law and How: Our Wife? Oliver gets married—not to his intended. This short comedy contains the famous sequence where three squeeze into a tiny car, each big enough for one man.  
5.45 Turned Out Nice Again: 5.45 A1. Pantomime: Oliver and George. Bertie's comedy: this is the one in which his mother (Elliot Mason) insists on accompanying him on his honeymoon.  
7.15 News with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

## THAMES

5.30 Once Upon a Time: story for children, The Runaway Bun.  
9.45 This England: documentary about three British soldiers who return to Normandy, scene of the D-Day landings.  
10.15 Faveline: American domestic drama: the story of a homeless black boy.  
11.45 Survival Special: Come into my Parlour. Peter Ustinov and the world of the spider.  
12.00 The Unspliced: cartoon, The Windmill.  
12.00 Animal Crackers: stories with pictures and music.  
12.15 Top of Pips: the story of Toppy's Place.  
12.30 The Sullivans: Australian comedy: the collapse of Harry Sullivan.  
1.00 News, 1.20 Thames News, 1.30 Armchair Theatre: The Limbo

## 5.35 Live the Engine: Oliver Post-12.45 pm Story Half Crown.

5.40 News and weather.  
5.55 Nationwide.

5.55 Tomorrow's World: tonight's edition includes items on a model aircraft that can take snaps, shock-absorbing plastic, energy from cowshed manure and new hope for people with speech defects. Also, Britain lagging in the space race.

7.20 Top of the Pops: pop music show, with Legs and Co and the Top of the Pops Orchestra.

7.25 Blankety Blank: Terry Wogan's panelists tonight are Pat Croce, Jes Douglas, Judy Geeson, Keith Harris, David Jacobs and Beryl Reid.

8.30 The Dawson Watch: Les Dawson finds jokes in education. I hope he finds better ones than he did last week in broadcasting.

9.00 News and Weather: with Peter Woods.

9.25 Play for Today: Katie: The Year of a Child. Play by Ian

Cullen and John Norton, about a 14-year-old girl who has to care for an ailing mother and nine brothers and sisters (see Personal Choice).

10.35 International Show Jumping: Show jumping debut by the Prince of Wales, leading his team of polo players against Captain Mark Lupton's eventing team. This is also the Novice Union Trophy, stakes with Gerd Wildung, world and European champion, competing.

11.15 Platform One: Frank Cleopatra, general secretary of the Electrical Union, is interviewed by David Macmillan.

11.45 News and weather.

## Regions

5.35 VARIATIONS: Water: 5.35 pm Note Today: 5.35 Radio 2: 7.15 The Weather Channel: 12.45 News and Weather.

5.45 Coronation: 11.15 News and Weather.

5.55 Sports: Around Six: 6.55 7.20 News and Weather: with Peter Woods.

7.25 Play for Today: Katie: The Year of a Child. Play by Ian

Janet Graham.

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9.00 News and Weather: with Peter Woods.

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11.15 Platform One: Frank Cleopatra, general secretary of the Electrical Union, is interviewed by David Macmillan.

11.45 News and weather.

12.00 20th Century Marianne Music: Balalaika, Moros.

12.15 Pianist: Frank Bridge.

12.45 In Short.

1.00 Radio 2: 6.00 Dave Lee Travis, 9.00 Simon Bates, 11.30 Paul Burnett, 2.00 pm Andy Peebles, 4.00 Alan Johnson, 7.00 John Dunn, 10.00 Mike Read, 12.00 Newbeat, 10.00 John Peel, 12.00 5.00 am Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2, 5.00 am With Radio 2, 10.00 pm With Radio 1, 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

## RADIO

## Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.  
6.10 Forecast Today.  
7.00 Today.  
7.05 Records: Gibbons, Mozart (Prog. Com: 21-Lipatti/Karajan), Crieg, 8.00 News.  
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Checkpoint.  
9.30 The Living World.  
10.00 News.  
10.30 Man on a Bicycle (1).t  
10.30 Daily Service.  
10.45 The Bandsman's Daughter (4).

11.00 News.

11.05 File on 4.

11.50 A Certain Style.

12.00 You and Yours.

12.27 Comedy: Cider Cup.

1.00 The World at One.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.30 Woman's Hour.

3.00 Listen with Mother.

3.15 Play: A Desperate Hour by John Graham.

4.15 Any Answers?

4.45 Story: Andrew.

5.00 Weather.

5.30 Top of the Form.

7.00 News.

7.30 The Archers.

7.45 Poems for Verse.

7.50 Bournemouth SO, Haydn, Frank.

7.55 John Wells (2).

8.30 Bournemouth SO, Elgar.

9.00 News.

9.30 Diamonds in the Sky: Flying into the Future. Last of Julian Pettifer's excellent series about air travel. Tonight: a visit to Boeing HQ in Seattle.

10.20 Richard Stilgoe. His guests are the Cambridge Buskers. More on the bus.

10.45 The White, the Black, and the Purple: documentary about Washington's still-unfinished cathedral (see Personal Choice).

11.20 News and weather.

11.35 Closedown: Elizabeth Jennings' poem in the Night, read by Gwen Waterson: possessor of one of the best voices in British broadcasting.

12.15-12.23 am Weather.

VHF

6.50 am Regional news, weather.

7.50 Regional news, weather.

8.30 pm Regional news, weather.

11.00 News, 12.00 Sun on 4: Helping with Health (3).

## Radio 3

6.35 am Weather.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 Records: Gibbons, Mozart (Prog. Com: 21-Lipatti/Karajan), Crieg, 8.00 News.  
8.05 Records: Herold, Saint-Saëns, Schreker, 9.00 News.

9.15 Opera (Sym 2).t

10.00 20th Century Marianne Music: Balalaika, Moros.

11.45 In Short.

11.55 BBC Welsh SO/Irvine Hobman, Beethoven, Joel Hoffman, Mendelssohn (Sym 4).t

12.00 News.

12.30 BBC Northern Singers/Wilkinson.

1.00 The World at One.

1.40 The Archers.

2.00 News.

2.30 Woman's Hour.

3.00 Listen with Mother.

3.15 Play: A Desperate Hour by John Graham.

4.15 Any Answers?

4.45 Story: Andrew.

5.00 Weather.

5.30 Top of the Form.

7.00 News.

7.30 The Archers.

7.45 Poems for Verse.

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11.20 News and weather.

11.35 Closedown: Elizabeth Jennings' poem in the Night, read by Gwen Waterson: possessor of one of the best voices in British broadcasting.

12.15-12.23 am Weather.

VHF

5.50-7.10 pm Open University: Into the Open (4)—prepared by your home, your family, Modern Technology: Consumer Decisions—consumer groups; Music in Europe.

7.15 Play: A Change of Mind, by Alan Drury.

7.30 Concert music: Byrd, Walton, Purcell, etc.

8.45 Nanshi: The Southward Drive (discussion about Japan).

9.30 Flute quartets: Mozart, Roger Nichols.

10.15 Building a Library: Vaughan Williams (Sym 5).t

11.35-12.00 News.

12.15-12.23 am Weather.

gones' Walk, 12.30 Derek Hobson, 2.15 David Hamilton, 4.15 Michael Mayhew, 5.30 Peter Dunn, 6.45 Spurts Desk, 7.02 Country Club, 9.02 Folkwave, 9.55 Sports Desk, 10.02 Peter Goodwright, 10.30 Star Sound Extra, 11.05 Brian Matthew, 2.02 5.00 am You and the Night and the Music, 1.

RADIO 1

5.00 am As Radio 2, 6.00 Dave Lee Travis, 9.00 Simon Bates, 11.31 Paul Burnett, 2.00 pm Andy Peebles, 4.00 Alan Johnson, 7.00 Mike Read, 10.00 John Peel, 12.00 5.00 am Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 and 2, 5.00 am With Radio 2, 10.00 pm With Radio 1, 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe and following stations: 1.00 am Newsweek, 7.00 World News, 10.00 The Times, 11.00 The Observer, 12.00 The Sunday Times, 1.00 pm The Evening Standard, 2.00 pm The Daily Telegraph, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times, 5.00 pm The Sunday Times, 6.00 pm The Sunday Times, 7.00 pm The Sunday Times, 8.00 pm The Sunday Times, 9.00 pm The Sunday Times, 10.00 pm The Sunday Times, 11.00 pm The Sunday Times, 12.00 pm The Sunday Times, 1.00 am The Sunday Times, 2.00 pm The Sunday Times, 3.00 pm The Sunday Times, 4.00 pm The Sunday Times,

